Jackson tells committee she will hear cases without "fear or favor." News, Page 4

Plane crash in China

China Eastern flight crashes in remote area; 132 presumed dead. News, Page 4

Biden's European trip

President adds stop in Poland to his trip to Europe this week. News, Page 6

Sunny and breezy



Mostly sunny and breezy; high of 52. **Sports, Page 6**



COURANT.COM **VOLUME CLXXXVI** TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2022

WAR IN UKRAINE

Defiant Mariupol mired in misery

Defenders in city hang on as Russian onslaught mounts

By Cara Anna Associated Press

LVIV, Ukraine – As Mariupol's defenders held out Monday against Russian demands that they surrender, the number of bodies in the rubble of the bombarded and encircled Ukrainian

city remained shrouded in uncertainty, the full extent of the horror not yet known.

With communications crippled, movement restricted and many residents in hiding, the fate of those inside an art school flattened on Sunday and a theater that was blown apart four days earlier was

More than 1,300 people were believed to be sheltering in the theater, and 400

were estimated to have been in the art school.

Perched on the Sea of Azov, Mariupol has been a key target that has been relentlessly pounded for more than three weeks and has seen some of the worst suffering of the war. The fall of the southern port city would help Russia establish a land bridge to Crimea, seized from Ukraine in 2014.

But no clear picture emerged of how close its

capture might be.
"Nobody can tell from the outside if it really is on the verge of being taken," said Keir Giles, a Russia expert at the British think tank Chatham House.

Over the weekend, Moscow had offered safe passage out of Mariupol, with one corridor leading east to Russia, another going west to other parts of Ukraine in return for the city's surrender before

daybreak Monday. Ukraine rejected the offer well before the deadline.

Mariupol officials said at least 2,300 people have died in the siege, with some buried in mass graves, but fears grew that the number could be far higher.

For those who remain, conditions have become brutal. The bombardment has cut off Mariupol's electricity, water and food supplies and severed

communication with the outside world, plunging residents into a fight for survival.

"What's happening in Mariupol is a massive war crime," European Union foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said.

Mariupol had a prewar population of about 430,000. Around a quarter were believed to have left in the

Turn to Ukraine, Page 3

Trailblazing sneaker store Rundown Hartford brings streetwear downtown



Owner Christian Scott of Rundown confers with staff member Dwayne Stewart, right, at the newly opened store on Pratt Street specializing in high-end and collectible sneakers. MARK MIRKO PHOTOS/HARTFORD COURANT

PIVOTAL PURSUIT

By Seamus McAvoy | Hartford Courant

Rundown Hartford is the first of its kind.

Located toward the east end of Hartford's historic $brick-lined\ Pratt\ Street, Rundown\ is\ primarily\ a\ sneaker$ shop specializing in high-end items from footwear to clothing owned by Christian Scott, a 27-year-old New Haven resident.

The shop, which celebrated its grand opening March 5 with lines out the door, has the feeling of an art gallery. Designer sneakers worth anywhere from a few hundred dollars to a few thousand, wrapped tightly in plastic for protection, line the walls like original Rembrandts.

On this warm March afternoon, a steady stream of customers flows in and out — some making purchases, and some just admiring the beauty.

"This is a great start for sneaker culture in Hartford, because a shop like this really hasn't been here before," said Donner P., 25, of Hartford County, who was in the store for the first time Friday.

"This is pivotal. It's something that could bring a certain sneaker community together," he said.

Turn to Rundown, Page 3



Rundown customer Tommy Mitchell checks his look in the mirror as he dances at the new store on Pratt Street.

Employees at ESPN denounce Florida bill

Join Disney colleagues to protest the company's response to 'Don't Say Gay'

By Alex Putterman Hartford Courant

Connecticut ESPN employees have joined colleagues across the Walt Disney Company protesting the company's response to Florida's "Parental Rights in Education" bill that would prohibit "classroom instruction by school personnel or third parties on sexual orientation or

gender identity" for young children. Critics say the legislation, dubbed the "Don't Say Gay" bill, would stigmatize LGBTQIA+ identity and interfere with an honest and well-rounded education for students.

The bill has passed both houses of the Florida legislature and is expected to be signed into law by Florida Gov. Ron DeSan-

Disney, whose presence in Florida includes Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, drew criticism for its initial silence about the legislation, as well as for having donated to lawmakers supporting it. Though Disney CEO Bob Chapek has since said the company stands with LGBTQIA+ employees and announced a pause on political donations in Florida, employees say the company should do

The protests, which began last week, included an impassioned speech from ESPN anchor Elle Duncan and continued with moments of silence during March Madness broadcasts. They are expected to escalate Tuesday with all-day walkouts across Disney properties.

"We understand the gravity of this legislation and also how it is affecting so many families across this country," Duncan said during studio coverage of the NCAA women's basketball tournament Friday. "Because of that, our allyship is going to take a front seat, and with that, we are going to pause in solidarity.'

An ESPN spokesperson declined to comment Monday beyond referring back to a statement from last week in which the network expressed support for both its LGBTQIA+ employees and the broadcasters who protested on air.

"Our programming was interrupted when employees participated in a demonstration designed to stand in solidarity with the LGBTQIA+ community at ESPN and

Turn to ESPN, Page 2

Hard-boiled criminal suspected in political murder-for-hire plot

By Edmund H. Mahony Hartford Courant

George Bratsenis is still one of Connecticut's most hard-boiled criminals, even if, at age 73, he no longer fits the picture. He is in prison, where he has spent most of his life. He is dying of cancer and suffering from COPD.

Half a century ago, he was a fixture

in police files in Connecticut, New York and New Jersey, robbing banks and sticking up jewelry stores. In 1980, a mob-connected Stamford police lieutenant recruited him for a crew that murdered a drug dealer and stole a kilo of heroin.

Bratsenis' most recent stretch in prison is the result of armed bank robberies in Darien and Trumbull in 2014. Law enforcement officials call them vintage Bratsenis. He and a partner, Bomani Africa, hit the banks with stopwatch precision, leaping onto teller counters, pointing guns, emptying drawers, timing everything and setting a fire to cover their escape.

Bratsenis faces what amounts to

Turn to Suspect, Page 2



Razor wire fencing is shown on a section of the Metropolitan Correctional Center in New York. George Bretsanis once wrote a letter from the prison to the director of the federal Bureau of Prisons. BEBETO MATTHEWS/AP

Lawmakers tout support for domestic violence victims

Advocates and lawmakers Monday during a public hearing of the Judiciary Committee considered bills that would enhance support for victims of violence and crack down on harmful interactions with children. Connecticut, Page 1

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FROM PAGE ONE

Suspect

from Page 1

a life sentence as a career criminal for the two bank robberies. But in January he learned that he has another problem.

Authorities in New Jersey allege that between his last two bank robberies in April and September of 2014, he and Africa committed a political murder-for hire there that is stunning even in a state where politics usually get the quaint descriptive "rough and tumble."

In a sensational court appearance on Jan. 25, well-known New Jersey political operative Sean Caddle pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit murder for hire and claimed he paid Bratsenis and Africa to kill Michael Galdieri, another political operator who had worked with Caddle in the past.

with Caddle in the past.
A day later, Africa, 61, was in federal court in New Jersey, pleading guilty to conspiring to commit murder-for-hire and admitting that he was one of the killers Caddle paid.

Bratsenis has not been charged.

He was in court in New Jersey on Feb. 22, but the hearing was postponed without explanation. Lawyers for both Bratsenis and Africa would not discuss the case.

Bratsenis and Africa are suspected of stabbing Galdieri to death in his Jersey City apartment and setting the apartment on fire in May 2014, according to authorities. Caddle is accused of meeting Bratsenis and paying him the following day.

Federal prosecutors have not revealed a motive for the case. But filings in court show that Caddle, 44, has been cooperating with investigators since at least last fall and agreed to plead guilty months ago.

"He's signed on as a cooperating witness," his attorney, Edwin J. Jacobs, told U.S. District Judge John Michael Vazquez in Newark during

the plea proceeding.
Caddle broke into politics in New Jersey's Hudson County. Among his clients were U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez, a New Jersey Democrat, and Raymond Lesniak, a retired Democratic state senator. Caddle also worked in Colorado and Texas.

Just what led to the murder-for-hire conspiracy remains a mystery, but there are signs that an answer may lie in prison.

Caddle's brother, James Caddle, and Bratsenis were confined together for more than three years in New Jersey's in Northern State Prison in Newark, according to state corrections department records obtained by NJ Advance Media. James Caddle was locked up from 2007 to 2010 on kidnapping, burglary and robbery charges. Bratsenis was in the same prison from 2006 to 2010 for weapons and bank robbery charges in New Jersey, according to federal court records in Connecticut.

Bratsenis and Africa also met in the New Jersey prison system, according to the Connecticut records. Bratsenis is a Stamford native. Africa, formerly known a Baxter Randolf Keys, is from Philadelphia.

"Bratsenis was incarcerated for a bank robbery conviction and Africa was incarcerated for a robbery conviction," a 2016 prosecution memo filed by the U.S. Attorney's office in New Haven says. "From 1999

through 2006, Bratsenis and Africa were both assigned to Block 2C, eight cells apart in cells 32 and 40."

It was while they were together in prison that Bratsenis and Africa agreed to "rob banks together" when they got out, according to the memo.

Bratsenis is a serial bank robber who grew up playing Little League in Stamford. After graduating from high school he joined the U.S. Marine Corps, and was honorably discharged after serving in Vietnam. He was trained as a "tunnel rat" — one of the troops who did the dangerous work of infiltrating, emptying and destroying underground enemy fortifications.

In a hand written letter he once wrote from the notorious Metropolitan Correctional Center in New York, complaining about conditions to the director of the federal Bureau of Prisons, Bratsenis opens and closes with "Semper Fi", the U.S. Marine Corps motto.

After military service in the 1960s, Bratsenis slipped into a life of drugs and crime, his lawyer wrote in a Connecticut court filing. By the 1980s, he was running with a crew of wise guys and crooked local police officers who were robbing and killing drug dealers after luring drug dealers north from Florida, according to a former federal prosecutor involved in the matters.

In 1984, he was charged in a conspiracy with then-Stamford police Lt. Lawrence Hogan and two others to murder drug dealer David "the Turk" Avnayim. The same year, Bratsenis was sentenced to 30 years in prison for a variety of offenses and, after completing that sentence, was transferred to New Jersey to serve

time for crimes there.

The first bank Bratsenis and Africa are accused of hitting after release by New Jersey was a People's United branch on Old Kings Highway in Darien. Bratsenis is accused of waiting outside in a getaway car while Africa walked in at 2:14 p.m. wearing a blue hooded sweatshirt, gloves and a mask and carrying an umbrella.

"Upon entering the bank, Africa dropped the umbrella, pulled out a gun and jumped over the teller station counter," according to a court filing, "Africa told the teller to open the first and second drawer, and said I will shoot you if you don't give me all your money!' Africa took a substantial amount of cash and placed it in a 'leopard' colored pillow case. Africa then jumped the counter and left the bank. Africa was last seen running to the back of the bank next to the railroad tracks. Bratsenis picked Africa up on the other side of the railroad tracks from the bank and they both left the scene."

The following month, May 2014, Galdieri was found stabbed to death in his burning Jersey City apartment.

In September 2014, Bratsenis and Africa decided to hit a People's branch on Madison Avenue in Trumbull. Early on Sept. 25, they stole a car at gun point outside a professional building on Hawley Lane. The following day, Africa drove to the bank in the stolen car. Bratsenis drove his sister's white pickup truck.

Prosecutors said Africa again jumped over the teller counter, demanded money while pointing a long-barreled pistol at one of the tellers. Bratsenis, wearing a cut-off sweatshirt arm with eye holes as his mask, was

also armed and took money from the cash drawers. After a minute, one of the two yelled "Time." Both men fled, Bratsenis carrying money in a bag and Africa spilling some of what he was trying to carry away in his hands. They made off with \$29,937.

Outside, prosecutors said, they lit the stolen car on fire as a distraction and drove off in the white pickup truck.

Three days after the robbery, the Trumbull police identified Bratsenis' sister as owner of the pickup. She is identified in court filings by the initials K.M.

"K.M. acknowledged that she owned a 1995 white Chevy S-10 pick-up truck, but reported to the officer that her brother George Bratsenis drove the pick-up," federal prosecutors said. "K.M. explained that Bratsenis, who lived on Jewett Avenue in Bridgeport, had recently been released from prison after serving 27 years for bank robberies."

Police spotted Bratsenis driving the pick-up later in the day of Sept. 29, and pulled him over. A search of the truck turned up, among other things, a long-blade butcher's knife, 13 surgical gloves, five black work gloves and a cut-off sleeve of a sweat-shirt with eye holes. Bank surveillance cameras show the cut-off sleeve matched Bratsenis' mask.

Federal authorities in both Connecticut and New Jersey are saying nothing about the butcher's knife, which has become a topic of speculation as a result of Galdieri's stabbing death.

Adding to the speculation is plea from the family of Joyce and John Sheridan, a politically active couple who also were stabbed to death. Sheridan was a confidant

to New Jersey governors, an influential Republican and former state transportation commissioner. On Sept. 28, 2014, he and is wife were stabbed to death in their Princeton, New Jersey, home, which was then set on fire. One of the Sheridan" sons has asked that his parent's death be reexamined and that the knife found in Bratsenis' truck be subjected to forensic testing.

Africa was arrested in 2015. Both he and Bratsenis have been held in pretrial detention since their arrests — an extraordinarily long period of time in a federal criminal case. Federal authorities will not give a reason for the delay in resolving the cases against them.

After Bratsenis' capture and return to prison, Africa was at large for several months. He pulled off a final bank job on Dec. 13, 2014. Federal investigators believe the two cased the banks and planned robberies in advance — including the third one, a Niagara Bank branch in Trumbull. Intercepted jail house conversations between Bratsenis and his girlfriend suggest he believed Africa should have been more aggressive about stealing money and sharing it with the girlfriend.

"But like he, he, he knows, you, what you are going through and everything," Bratsenis told his girlfriend, the conversations show. "He, he should be right up there and step to the plate. I mean like see that's the difference of between him and me. I'm, I'm gonna go. You know I got ... I'm gonna go do what I gotta do. You know, you know that. You know me well enough to know that."

"That's why I (expletive) love you so (expletive) much," his girlfriend replied.

ESPN

from Page 1

ESPN's parent company, Disney," the network said. "Our colleagues have both our respect and our support."

At least three ESPN/ABC broadcast crews participate in moments of silence during

NCAA women's basketball tournament broadcasts over the weekend.

"There are things bigger than basketball that need to be addressed at this time," ESPN play-by-play commentator Courtney Lyle said moments before the second half of the first-round game between South Carolina and Howard on

Friday. "Our friends, our family, our coworkers, the coworkers in our community, are hurting right now."

During Saturday's UConn women's basketball game against Mercer, ABC announcers Stephanie White and Pam Ward also offered their support.

It is not clear how many ESPN employees in Bristol or elsewhere intend to walk out Tuesday and whether that might affect any aspect of the network's broadcast schedule. The walkout is scheduled to last from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., according to a website run by Disney employees.

According to whereischapek.com, the protests aim to pressure Disney into permanently ceasing donations to certain Florida legislators, halting construction and investment in Florida, donating to LGBTQIA+groups, better representing LGBTQIA+people in its content and creating a brand specifically focused on LGBTQIA+voices.

"As a community, we have been forced into an impossible and unsustainable position," reads a statement on the website. "We must now take action to convince [Disney] to protect employees and their families in the face of such open and unapologetic bigotry."

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LOTTERY Monday, March 21

PLAY3 DAY PLAY4 DAY
5 6 4 WB: 5 5 8 0 7 WB: 0

The late lotto numbers were not drawn in time for this edition. For results, please visit courant.com/lottery.

SUNDAY'S LATE NUMBERS

PLAY3 DAY PLAY4 DAY
9 8 8 WB:1 8 0 0 5 WB:0

CASH 5

8 17 21 22 25

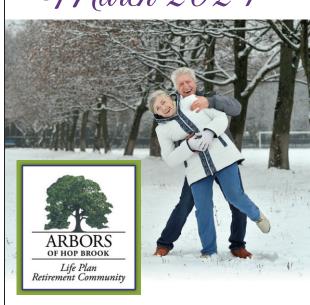
LUCKY FOR LIFE

7 8 26 31 39 LB:1

Tonight's est. Lotto jackpot: \$1.5 million Tonight's est. Mega Millions jackpot: \$39 million Wednesday's est. Powerball jackpot:

Wednesday's est. Powerball jackpot: \$156 million





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FROM PAGE ONE



"The tennis shoes are great, but not for me," said Hartford resident Karen Bacco, who talked with Rundown staffer Franchesca Villar about looking for leopard print slides. MARK MIRKO PHOTOS/ HARTFORD COURANT

Rundown

from Page 1

'It turned into a business'

Scott traces his love for sneakers back to his childhood in Stamford, when his parents would take him to the Bronx to look at the new releases, now colloquially referred to as "drops." Once he got his first job, Scott says he'd spend entire paychecks on just one or two pairs.

"I think at the high point, I probably had 500 pairs for myself," said Scott, who, it feels important to mention, was wearing Yeezy slides.

Most of Scott's collection had never been worn, and many never even taken out of the box, so he started listing some pairs on Facebook Marketplace. It was more out of necessity than a wish to make money, he said, but began getting offered "prices I didn't imagine."

It was clear there was a business opportunity in the secondary sneaker market. Still in need of space for his personal collection, Scott opened the first Rundown location in Bridgeport in

September 2020. Scott had planned on focusing on online sales, but people kept coming in the door. He started hiring staff to help out. Rundown now has two managers and 17

other staff employees. "It turned into a business without us trying," Scott said.

Which isn't to say that Scott, who speaks with the air and savvy of a veteran businessman, isn't up to the task. In addition to experience selling online, he worked as an assistant manager at a consignment shop in New York City prior to opening the Bridgeport

"You don't have that customer until you have what they want to buy," he explains while talking inven-

tory strategy.

Hartford is big on older



Franchesca Villar of Rundown wraps sneakers at the newly opened store on Pratt Street. Rundown specializies in high-end and collectible sneakers.

sneakers, Scott said, as well as "SB"s, Nike's line of skateboarding gear. Rundown is just blocks away from Heaven Skate Park, a hub for local skate culture, which Scott says is an untapped market.

Rundown has something for everybody — or, nearly everybody. "Their tennis shoes are great, but not for me," said Karen Bacco, of Hartford, who came in looking for leopard print slides.

What's the hype about?

With streetwear, "you either get it or you don't," Donner said. In other words:

If you know, you know. But it's real. The global sneaker market is worth an estimated \$85 billion, according to Statista, a German market and consumer data company.

But before Rundown,

many Connecticut residents didn't have a place to go to get in on the trend that has completely taken over the

fashion world. "I don't want to be cocky, but when we opened, there was nobody doing what we wanted to do," said Jazz Beltre, Scott's longtime friend and Rundown Hartford's store manager.

On one hand, that meant there was no easy roadmap for success. On the other. Connecticut's entire highend sneaker market was theirs to fill.

So how do they do it? "I'm sure you've seen pictures online of some dude with like, 200 pairs [of sneakers]," said Beltre, referring to the common practice of individuals using bots to purchase large amounts of streetwear items within seconds of their release.

"That person won't sell to the average person, because you only want to buy one, but he wants to offload all of them." Beltre continued.

That's where secondarv sellers like Rundown come into play. Rundown has enough foot traffic in their stores to justify bulk purchases, and sellers have enough trust in them to feel comfortable moving orders

often worth six-figure sums. "It's not me that's messing the game up, it's some kid in Oklahoma that has all the time in the world to just buy sneakers," Beltre said, laughing. "And at one time, I was that kid."

If you shop at Macy's, this sort of supply chain probably sounds bizarre.

But it reflects the radical changes in sneaker culture that occurred in the 2010s, around the time Scott worked as an assistant manager at a consignment shop in New York City.

A confluence of factors.

including strong ties to the hip-hop community, meant that by sometime in the late 2000s, streetwear brands Supreme or A Bathing Ape

were being mentioned in

the same breath as Gucci or Louis Vuitton. Perhaps there's no better indication of how times had changed than when Louis Vuitton and Supreme collaborated in 2017 - 17 years after the former issued a cease and desist for unau-

'We had to come'

skateboard deck.

thorized use of its logo on a

Back in Bridgeport, Scott said the average customer walks away with a \$500 purchase. The customers who make the drive from the Hartford area drop as much as \$6,000. "They're not leaving empty handed,"

Scott said. The popularity of

Rundown with Hartford residents, who were making trips every day despite the long drive, gave Scott the motivation to look into retail spaces in the capital city.

He found this location, at 44 Pratt Street, and "fell in love with the aesthetic." At 3,200 square feet, Rundown Hartford is roughly twice the size of the Bridgeport location — a place "we can grow into," Scott said.

After spending several months and \$180,000 on building out the store, Scott learned that he was eligible to be reimbursed by up to \$150,000 as part of Hart-ford's Hart Lift business development fund.

Rundown moves a lot of product, which means Scott and his team are constantly restocking inventory. It comes with a big price tag.

Scott said he spent \$35,000 on shoes for the Bridgeport location the other day, and it's not unusual for purchase orders to run into six figures.

Costs are high, but so are sales. "We're doing really well," Scott said, sporting a coy smile.

Their success has made Rundown something of a flagship business among the Pratt Street newcomers. The Hartford Chamber of Commerce is eager for more to follow, after making an effort last fall to fill the street's vacant storefronts.

Rundown has only been fully open for about two weeks, but it's already a destination.

"We had to come," said Hartford resident Quraun Sturges, who was shopping with his wife, Briana. "To have a place like this in the inner city is great. We usually have to make a trip to Boston or New York City."

We can order online, but pay triple," said Briana. "This is the best thing they could do for Hartford."

Seamus McAvoy may be reached at smcavoy@ courant.com.

Ukraine

from Page 1

opening days of the war, and tens of thousands escaped over the past week by way of a humanitarian corridor. Other attempts have been thwarted by the fighting.

A long convoy of vehicles lined a road in Bezimenne, Ukraine, as Mariupol residents sought shelter at a temporary camp set up by the rebel Donetsk government. An estimated 5,000 people from Mariupol have taken refuge in the camp. Many arrived in cars with signs that said "children" in Russian.

A woman who gave her name as Yulia said she and her family sought shelter in Bezimenne after a bombing destroyed six houses behind her home.

"That's why we got in the car, at our own risk, and left in 15 minutes because everything is destroyed there, dead bodies are lying around," she said. "They don't let us pass through everywhere there are shoot-

ings. As Russia intensifies its effort to pound Mariupol into submission, its ground offensive in other parts of the country has become bogged down, slowed by lethal hit-and-run attacks by the Ukrainians. Western officials and analysts say the conflict is turning into a grinding war of attrition, with Russian President Vladimir Putin's forces using air power and artillery to pulverize cities from a distance.

A senior U.S. defense official, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss the military's assessment, said Russia had increased air sorties over the past two days, carrying out as many as 300 in the past 24 hours, and has fired more than 1,100 missiles into Ukraine since the invasion began Feb. 24.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, in a video address Monday night, hailed those who have fought back against Russia.

There is no need to organize resistance," he said. "Resistance for Ukrainians is part of their soul."

In the capital, Kyiv, a shopping center in the densely populated Podil district near the city center was a smoking ruin after being hit late Sunday by shelling that killed eight people, according to emergency officials. The attack shattered every window in a neighboring high-rise.

Russian military spokesman Maj. Gen. Igor Konashenkov charged that Ukrainian forces had been using the shopping mall to store rockets and reload launchers. That claim could not be independently veri-

Britain's Defense Ministry said Ukrainian resistance has kept the bulk of Moscow's forces more than 15 miles from the center of Kyiv, but the capital "remains Russia's primary military objective.

Amid the shelling, Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko announced a curfew from Monday evening through Wednesday morning.

Ukrainian authorities also said Russia shelled a chemical plant outside the eastern city of Sumy, sending toxic ammonia leaking from a 50-ton tank, and hit



A Ukrainian solider on March 12 in Mariupol, Ukraine. A Russian demand for surrender of the city in exchange for safe passage was rejected. Ukrainian authorities say the fate of civilians trapped in the city is largely unknown. MSTYSLAV CHERNOV/AP

a military training base in ern Ukraine with cruise the Rivne region of west-

missiles.

WORLD&NATION

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High court hearing nods to history

First day devoted to opening remarks by Jackson, senators

By Mark Sherman and Mary Clare Jalonick Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Supreme Court nominee Ketanji Brown Jackson pledged on Monday to decide cases "without fear or favor" if the Senate confirms her historic nomination as the first Black woman on the high court.

Jackson, 51, thanked God and professed love for "our country and the Constitution" in a 12-minute statement to the Senate Judiciary Committee at the end of her first day of confirmation hearings, nearly four hours almost entirely consumed by remarks from the panel's 22 members.

Republicans promised pointed questions over the coming two days, with a special focus on her record on criminal matters. Democrats were full of praise for President Joe Biden's Supreme Court nominee.

With her family sitting behind her— and her husband in socks bearing George Washington's likeness — Jackson stressed that she has been independent, deciding cases "from a neutral posture" in her nine years as a judge, and that she is ever mindful of the importance of that role.

"I have dedicated my career to ensuring that the words engraved on the front of the Supreme Court building, equal justice under law, are a reality and not just an ideal," she declared.

Barring a significant misstep, Democrats who control the Senate by the



Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson is accompanied by Sens. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, left, and Dick Durbin, D-Ill., as they arrive Monday for the Senate Judiciary Committee's confirmation hearing on her nomination to the Supreme Court. **WIN MCNAMEE/GETTY**

slimmest of margins intend to wrap up her confirmation before Easter. She would be the third Black justice, after Thurgood Marshall and Clarence Thomas, as well as the first Black woman on the high court.

Jackson's sternest Republican critics as well as her Democratic defenders all acknowledged the historic nature of her presence. There were frequent reminders that no Black woman had been nominated to the high court before her and repeated references to another unique aspect of her nomination: Jackson is the first former public defender nominated to be a justice.

"It's not easy being the first. Often, you have to be the best, in some ways the bravest," Democratic Sen. Dick Durbin of Illinois, the committee chairman, said in support.

Democrats sought to preemptively rebut Republican criticism of her record on criminal matters as a judge and before that as a federal public defender and a member of the U.S. Sentencing Commission.

Jackson "is not anti-law enforcement," and is not "soft on crime," Sen. Pat Leahy, D-Vt., said, noting that members of Jackson's family have worked in law enforcement and that she has support from some national law enforcement organizations. "Judge Jackson is no judicial activist."

The committee's senior Republican, Sen. Chuck Grassley of Iowa, promised Republicans would "ask tough questions about Jackson's judicial philosophy," without turning the hearings into a "spectacle."

Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., noted that Democrats had opposed some past Republican judicial nominees who were Black or Hispanic, and he said that he and his GOP colleagues wouldn't be deterred by Jackson's race from asking probing questions.

He said of some criticism from the left: "It's about, 'We're all racist if we ask hard questions.' That's not going to fly with us."

Graham was one of three Republicans to support Jackson's confirmation, 53-44, as an appellate judge last year. But he has indicated over the past several weeks that he is unlikely to vote for her again.

While few Republicans are likely to vote for her, most GOP senators did not aggressively criticize Jackson, whose confirmation would not change the court's 6-3 conservative majority. Several Republicans used their time to denounce

Senate Democrats instead of Jackson's record.

The Republicans are trying to use her nomination to brand Democrats as soft on crime, an emerging theme in GOP midterm election campaigns. Biden has chosen several former public defenders for life-tenured judicial posts. In addition, Jackson served on the U.S. Sentencing Commission, an independent agency created by Congress to reduce disparity in federal prison sentences.

With Jackson silently taking notes, Sen. Josh Hawley, R-Mo., said in his opening statement that his research showed that she had a pattern of issuing lower sentences in child pornography cases, repeating comments he wrote in a Twitter thread last week. The Republican National Committee echoed his claims, which Hawley did not raise when he questioned Jackson last year before voting against her appeals court confirmation.

The White House, along with several Democrats at the hearing, has rejected Hawley's criticism as "toxic and weakly presented misinformation."

Former Alabama Sen. Doug Jones, who is guiding Jackson as she navigates the Senate process, told reporters afterward that "she will be the one to counter many of those questions" from Hawley and others on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Her testimony will give viewers and senators their most extensive look yet at the Harvard-trained lawyer with a broader resume than many nominees. She would be the first justice with significant criminal defense experience since Marshall.

Jet carrying 132 crashes in remote area of China

Boeing 737-800 went into quick plunge; no sign of survivors

By Ken Moritsugu Associated Press

BEIJING — A China Eastern Boeing 737-800 with 132 people on board crashed in a remote mountainous area of southern China on Monday, officials said, setting off a forest fire visible from space in the country's worst air

disaster in nearly a decade.

More than 15 hours after communication was lost with the plane, there was still no word about the fate of passengers and crew members.

The Civil Aviation Administration of China said in a statement that the crash occurred near the city of Wuzhou in the Guangxi region. The flight was traveling from Kunming in the southwestern province of Yunnan to the industrial center of Guangzhou along the east coast, it added.

china Eastern flight 5735 had been traveling at 523 mph at around 30,000 feet when it entered a steep dive around 2:20 p.m. local time, according to data from flight-tracking website FlightRadar24.com. The plane stopped transmitting

data 96 seconds later.

Local villagers were first to arrive at the forested area where the plane went down and sparked a blaze big enough to be seen on NASA satellite images. Hundreds of rescue workers were sent from Guangxi and neighboring Guangdong province.

The plane was carrying 123 passengers and nine crew members, the CAAC said, correcting earlier reports that 133 people had been on board.

Chinese President Xi Jinping called for an "all-out effort" by the rescue operation, as well as for an investigation into the crash.

Relatives of crew members arrived at a China Eastern office near the Kunming airport where the plane took off, state broadcaster CCTV reported.

State media reported all 737-800s in China Eastern's fleet were ordered grounded. Aviation experts said it is unusual to ground an entire fleet of planes unless there is evidence of a problem with the model. China has more 737-800s than any other country nearly 1,200 of the planes, and if other Chinese airlines ground the plane, it "could have a significant impact on domestic travel," said aviation consultant IBA.

Boeing 737-800s have been flying since 1998, and Boeing has sold more than 5,100 of them. They have been involved in 22 accidents that totaled the planes and killed 612 people, according to data compiled by the Aviation Safety Network, an arm of the Flight Safety Foundation.

"There are thousands of them around the world. It's certainly had an excellent safety record," the foundation's president, Hassan Shahidi, said of the 737-800.

China's air-safety record has improved since the 1990s as air travel has grown dramatically with the rise of a burgeoning middle class. Before Monday, the last fatal crash of a Chinese airliner occurred in August 2010, when an Embraer ERJ 190-100 operated by Henan Airlines hit the ground short of the runway in the northeastern city of Yichun and caught fire. It carried 96 people and 44 of them died. Investigators blamed pilot

The U.S. National Transportation Safety Board tweeted Monday that it had picked a senior investigator to help with the crash investigation. The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration, which certified the 737-800 in the 1990s, said it was



Relatives of people aboard China Eastern flight 5735 wait for word Monday at Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport in China's Guangdong province. **NOEL CELIS/GETTY-AFP**

ready to help if asked.

Chicago-based Boeing Co. said it was in contact with the U.S. safety board "and our technical experts are prepared to assist with the investigation led by the Civil Aviation Administration of China."

Crash investigations are usually led by officials in the country where the crash occurred, but they typically include the airplane's manufacturer and the investigator or regulator in the manufacturer's home country.

Shahidi said he expects investigators to comb

through the maintenance history of the plane and its engines, the training and records of the pilots, air traffic control discussions and other topics.

Headquartered in Shanghai, China Eastern is one of the country's top three airlines, operating scores of domestic and international routes serving 248 destinations.

The aircraft was delivered from Boeing in June 2015 and had been flying for more than six years. China Eastern Airlines uses the Boeing 737-800 as a workhorse of its fleet — the airline has more than 600 planes with 109 of them Boeing 737-800s.

Broadcaster CCTV said China Eastern set up nine teams to deal with aircraft disposal, accident investigation, family assistance and other pressing matters.

The CAAC and China Eastern both said they had sent officials to the crash site

The accident became a leading topic on China's Twitter-like Weibo, with 1.34 billion views and 690,000 discussions. Many expressed condolences.



Couy Griffin faces a pair of charges in connection with the U.S. Capitol riot in 2021. **GEMUNU AMARASINGHE/AP**

US Capitol riot trial opens for Cowboys for Trump founder

By Michael Kunzelman Associated Press

WASHINGTON — An elected official from New Mexico went to trial Monday with a judge — not a jury — set to decide if he is guilty of charges that he illegally entered the U.S. Capitol grounds on the day a pro-Trump mob disrupted the certification of Joe Biden's presidential election victory.

Couy Griffin is one of the few riot defendants who

isn't accused of entering the Capitol or engaging in any violent or destructive behavior on Jan. 6, 2021.

He claims he has been selectively prosecuted for his political views.

Griffin, one of three members of the Otero County Commission in southern New Mexico, is among a handful of riot defendants who either held public office or ran for a government leadership post in the 2 ½ years before the attack.

He is among only three riot defendants who have asked for a bench trial, which means a judge will decide his case without a

U.S. District Court Judge Trevor McFadden is scheduled to hear one day of testimony.

Griffin, a 48-year-old former rodeo rider and former pastor, helped establish a political committee called Cowboys for Trump.

called Cowboys for Trump. Griffin is charged with two misdemeanors: entering

and remaining in a restricted building or grounds and disorderly and disruptive conduct in a restricted building or grounds.

Defense attorney Nicholas Smith said prosecutors apparently believe Griffin engaged in disorderly conduct by peacefully leading a prayer on the Capitol steps.

"That is offensive and wrong," Smith told the judge during his brief opening

statements.
Prosecutors didn't give

any opening statements. Their first witness was Matthew Struck, who joined Griffin at the Capitol and served as his videographer. Struck has an immunity deal with prosecutors for his testimony.

In a court filing, prosecutors called Griffin "an inflammatory provocateur and fabulist who engages in racist invective and propounds baseless conspiracy theories, including that Communist China stole the 2020 Presidential Election."

WORLD & NATION

Looking to change chief rabbis' will

Israel's rabbinate has a tight grip on much of daily life

By Tia Goldenberg Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel - Israel's new government has taken aim at the country's powerful religious establishment with a pair of reforms that would chip away at the tight grip of the country's chief rabbinate on many aspects of daily life.

The reforms, which address rules on kosher food and conversions to Judaism, make only modest changes to current practices. But they have nonetheless sparked protests and outrage from religious leaders, underscoring the rabbis' power and the deep divide between Israel's observant and secular communities.

The Israeli rabbinate, backed by power-ful ultra-Orthodox allies in parliament, have for decades wielded a tight grip over areas like weddings, divorces and burials. The formation of a new government last year without any ultra-Orthodox parties cleared the way for the reforms.

"For many years no change or reform regarding religious services was carried out whatsoever," said Shuki Friedman, vice president of the Jewish People Policy Institute, a Jerusalem think tank, who helped draft one of the reforms. "Now there is a government that is

succeeding to change that." Israel views its Jewish character as a critical part of its identity and tasked the chief rabbinate decades ago with preserving that trait. But its power has frustrated many Israelis who see the religious body as corrupt.

"The time has come for the chief rabbis to understand that they are causing the most sacrilege to the state of Israel. They are causing the non-religious public

WITH PALMER



Religious Jewish youths wave flags during a protest in January against reforms that would loosen the chief rabbinate's hold in Jerusalem. MAHMOUD ILLEAN/AP

in Israel to loathe Judaism," said Rabbi David Stav, who heads Tzohar, a group that provides alternative Orthodox religious services outside the framework of the rabbinate.

Architects of the reforms say they are meant to streamline a cumbersome system and break up the rabbinate's monopoly. The ultra-Orthodox establishment sees itself as the guardian of Israel's Jewish identity after centuries of persecution and assimilation.

Challenging the rabbinate's authority could "break up the fabric of Jewish life in this country," said Rabbi Eliezer Simcha Weisz, a member of the chief rabbinate council, which determines religious standards and rules for Jewish Israelis.

"It's going to empty the whole purpose of the chief rabbinate, it will have no influence whatsoever," he

The chief rabbinate, a body created with the intention of representing and uniting all Jews in Israel, has long been viewed with suspicion and mistrust by a wide swath of Israelis both those who are not religious as well as observant Jews who do not adhere to its strict interpretation of Judaism.

The ultra-Orthodox religious establishment resists any inroads from other streams of Judaism, including the liberal Reform and Conservative movements. which are marginal in Israel but make up the majority of American Jews. It also has strained relations with the more prevalent modern Orthodox Jews, whose interpretations of Judaism are more accommodating to secular lifestyles.

Various attempts over the vears to reform the rabbinate have failed, mostly because of political considerations. But the current makeup of the Israeli government, a constellation of ideologically disparate parties, appears to have found common ground over the religious reforms. With no ultra-Orthodox parties in the coalition, they have been able to pass one reform and plan to move ahead on the second

"Change is hard. I understand the opponents and their concerns, but I believe in a few years we will look back and understand that this move was essential," Religious Services Minister Matan Kahana wrote on Facebook, adding that his reforms buttressed Israel's Jewish character. Kahana, an observant Jew, was assigned a bodyguard after he received threats over his policies.

One reform is meant to

streamline the process of kosher certification. The chief rabbinate grants kosher certification for restaurants, grocery stores or food production companies. The system has led to a bureaucratic nightmare for some businesses and charges of corruption because the inspectors are paid by the businesses seeking the coveted certifica-

The reform will see private entities become responsible for certification, with the rabbinate determining the standard for that certification.

A separate reform which has yet to pass seeks to address the religious status of nearly half a million Israelis from former Soviet countries. While Israel allowed them to immigrate because of their Jewish ancestry, they are not recognized as Jews under the rabbinate's

stricter interpretation and thus cannot get married in Israel.

Those who want to convert today must do so under the strict guidelines of the rabbinate and are expected to remain religious once they convert, a practice most are not interested in

The reform would allow would-be converts to carry out the process with any rabbi that receives official permission to conduct conversions, opening up the process to clergy who might allow the convert to continue a secular lifestyle.

Proponents hope these reforms will pave the way for more liberalization. But in Israel's tumultuous political system, the next government may include ultra-Orthodox parties who could roll back the changes, making their successful implementation critical.



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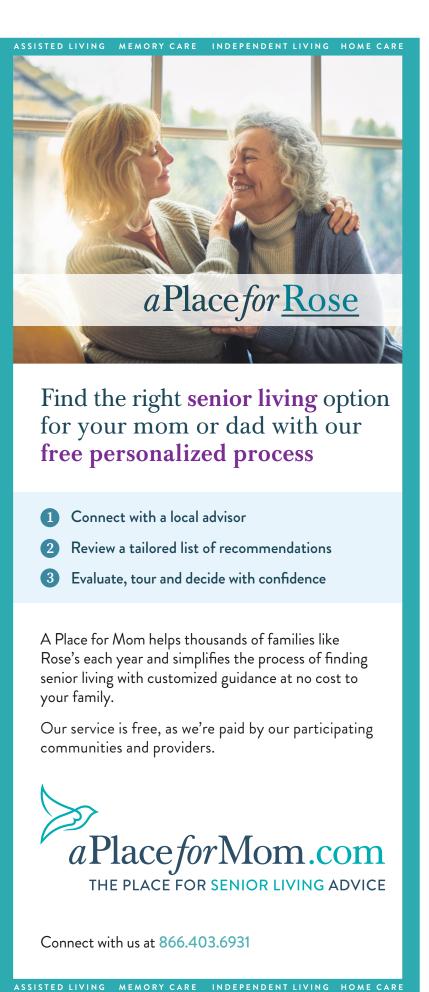
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GOP pushes voter fraud crackdown

Agencies, harsher penalties for crime that is quite rare

By Reid J. Epstein and Nick Corasaniti The New York Times

The Florida Legislature this month created a law enforcement agency — informally called the election police — to tackle what Gov. Ron DeSantis and other Republicans have declared an urgent problem: the roughly 0.000677% of voters suspected of committing voter fraud.

In Georgia, Republicans in the House passed a law last week handing new powers to police personnel who investigate allegations of election-related crimes.

And in Texas, the Republican attorney general already has created an "election integrity unit" charged solely with investigating illegal voting.

Voter fraud is exceedingly rare — and often accidental. Still, ambitious Republicans across the country are making a show of cracking down on voter crime this election year.

Legislators in several states have moved to reorganize and rebrand law enforcement agencies while stiffening penalties for voting-related crimes. Republican district attorneys and state attorneys general are promoting their aggressive prosecutions, in some cases making felony cases out of situations that in the past might have been classified as honest mistakes.

It is a new phase of the Republican campaign to tighten voting laws that started after former President Donald Trump began making false claims of fraud following the 2020 election.

The effort, which resulted in a wave of new state laws last year, has now shifted to courthouses, raising concern among voting rights activists that fear of prosecution could keep some voters



A voter fills out a ballot at a polling place in Reedsburg, Wisconsin. LAUREN JUSTICE/THE NEW YORK TIMES 2020

from casting ballots.

"As myths about widespread voter fraud become central to political campaigns and discourse, we're seeing more of the high-profile attempts to make examples of individuals," said Wendy Weiser, the vice president for democracy at the Brennan Center.

It's nearly impossible to assess whether the talk of getting tough on voter crime is resulting in an increase in prosecutions.

There is no nationwide data on how many people were charged with voter fraud in 2020 or in previous elections, and state data is often incomplete. The state numbers that are available show there were very few examples of potential cases in 2020 and few prosecutions.

Florida election officials made just 75 referrals to law enforcement agencies regarding potential fraud during the 2020 election, out of more than 11 million votes cast, according to data from the Florida secretary of state's office.

Of those investigations, only four cases have been prosecuted as voter fraud in the state from the 2020 election.

In Texas, where Attorney General Ken Paxton announced his new "election integrity unit" in October to investigate election crimes, the Houston Chronicle reported that the six-prosecutor unit had spent \$2.2 million and had closed three cases.

And in Wisconsin, where a swath of Republicans — including one candidate for governor — are seeking to decertify the state's 2020 presidential election results on the basis of false claims of fraud, a report released last week by the Wisconsin Election Commission said that the state had referred to local prosecutors 95 instances of felons' voting

in 2020 when they were not allowed to.

From among those cases, district attorneys have filed charges against 16 people.

charges against 16 people.

"The underlying level of actual criminality, I don't think that's changed at all," said Lorraine Minnite, a Rutgers University political science professor who has collected years of data on election fraud in America. "In an election of 130 million or 140 million people, it's close to zero. The truth is not a priority; what is a priority is the political use of this issue."

The political incentives to draw attention to the enforcement of voting laws are clear. A Monmouth University poll in January found that 62% of Republicans and just 19% of Democrats believed voter fraud was a major problem.

That may mean the odds of being charged with voter fraud can be linked to the political affiliation of the local prosecutor.

In Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin, District Attorney Eric Toney was in office for nine years without prosecuting a voter fraud case. But after he started his campaign for attorney general in 2021, Toney, a Republican, received a letter from a Wisconsin man who had acquired copies of millions of ballots in an attempt to conduct his own review of the 2020 election. The letter cited five Fond du Lac County voters whose registrations listed their home addresses at a UPS Store, a violation of a state law that requires voters to register where they live.

Toney charged all five with felony voter fraud.

"We get tips from community members of people breaking the law through the year, and we take them seriously, especially if it's an election law violation," Toney said in an interview. "Law enforcement takes it

seriously. I take it seriously as a district attorney."

One of the voters charged, Jamie Wells, told investigators that the UPS Store was her "home base." She said she lived in a mobile home and split time between a nearby campground and Louisiana. Wells did not respond to phone or email messages.

If convicted, she stands to serve up to 3 ½ years in prison — though she would most likely receive a much shorter sentence.

In La Crosse County, Wisconsin, District Attorney Tim Gruenke, a Democrat, received a similar referral: 23 people registered to vote with addresses from a local UPS Store, and 16 of them voted in 2020. But Gruenke said he had concluded that there was no attempt at fraud.

Instead of felony charges, the local clerk sent the voters a letter giving them 30 days to change their registrations to an address where they lived.

"It didn't seem to me there was any attempt to defraud," Gruenke said. "It would be a felony charge, and I thought that would be too heavy for what amounted to a typo or clerical error."

Toney linked his decision to his views about the 2020 election in Wisconsin, which the Democratic candidate, Joe Biden, won by more than 20,682 votes out of 3.3 million cast.

While he had never challenged Biden's win, he said he believed that "there is no dispute that Wisconsin election laws weren't followed and fraud occurred."

"I support identifying any fraud or election laws not followed to ensure it never happens again, because elections are the cornerstone of our democracy," Toney said.

Wells, one of the voters Toney has charged, also said she believed something was amiss in the 2020 election.

"They took it away from Trump," she told investigators.



that will entitle them to work in the country and receive health care. CZAREK SOKOLOWSKI/AP

WAR IN UKRAINE

Refugees from Ukraine speak of horrors after the invasion

By Srdjan Nedeljkovic and David Keyton

Associated Press

MEDYKA, Poland — Yulia Bondarieva spent 10 days in a basement as Russian planes flew over and bombs were falling on the Ukrainian city of Kharkiv. Having reached safety in Poland, Bondarieva's only wish now is for her twin sister in the besieged city of Mariupol to get out

"They have been in the basement since Feb. 24, they have not been out at all," Bondarieva said. "They are running out of food and water."

Bondarieva managed to speak to her sister on the phone recently. The fear of what will happen to her in the encircled and bombedout city that is going through some of the worst fighting in the war has been overwhelming.

"She does not know how to leave the city," the 24-year-old said after arriving in the Polish border town of Medyka.

Mariupol authorities have said only about 10%

of the city's population of 430,000 has managed to flee over the past week. The Mariupol City Council has asserted that several thousand residents were taken into Russia against their will.

Bondarieva said her sister told her of "Russian soldiers walking around the city" in Mariupol, and people not being allowed out.

The battle for the strategic port on the Azov Sea raged Monday. Russian and Ukrainian soldiers were fighting block-by-block for control of Mariupol, where at least 2,300 people have died, some buried in mass graves.

Maria Fiodorova, a 77-year-old refugee from Mariupol who arrived Monday in Medyka, said 90% of the city has been destroyed.

"There are no buildings there (in Mairupol) any more," she said.

For Maryna Galla, just listening to birds singing as she arrived in Poland was blissful after the sound of shelling and death in Mariupol. Galla took a stroll in the park in Przemysl with her

13-year-old son Danil. She hopes to reach Germany next.

"It's finally getting better," Galla said.

The United Nations says nearly 3.5 million people have left Ukraine since the start of the Russian invasion on Feb. 24, the largest exodus of refugees in Europe since World War II.

Zoryana Maksimovich is from the western city of Lviv, near the Polish border. Though the city has seen less destruction than others, Maksimovich said her children are frightened and cried every night when they had to go to the basement for protection.

"I told my children that we are going to visit friends," the 40-year-old said. "They don't understand clearly what is going on but in a few days they are going to ask me about where their father is."

Like most refugees, Maksimovich had to flee without her husband — men ages 18 to 60 are forbidden from leaving the country and have stayed to fight.

"I don't know how I will explain," she said.

WAR IN UKRAINE

White House: Biden to visit Poland during trip to Europe

By Colleen Long and Ellen Knickmeyer Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden has added a stop in Poland to his trip this week to Europe for urgent talks with NATO and European allies, as Russian forces concentrate their fire upon cities and trapped civilians in a nearly monthold invasion of Ukraine.

Biden will first travel to Brussels and then to Poland to meet with leaders there, press secretary Jen Psaki

said in a statement.

Poland is a crucial ally in the Ukraine crisis. It is hosting thousands of American troops and is taking in more people fleeing the war in Ukraine — more than 2 million — than any other nation in the midst of the largest European refugee crisis in decades.

Biden will head to Warsaw for a bilateral meeting with President Andrzej Duda scheduled for Saturday. Biden will discuss how the U.S., along with its allies and partners, is responding to "the humanitarian and human rights crisis that Russia's unjustified and unprovoked war on Ukraine has created," Psaki said.

On Monday ahead of his trip, Biden discussed the war with European leaders. President Emmanuel Macron of France, Chancellor Olaf Scholz of Germany, Prime Minister Mario Draghi of Italy and Prime Minister Boris Johnson of the United Kingdom took part in the 58-minute call.

White House officials have said Biden has no plans to travel to Ukraine. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, while in Poland this month, briefly crossed into neighboring Ukraine in a show of solidarity alongside that country's foreign minister, Dmytro Kuleba. Poland has been one of



President Joe Biden and first lady Jill Biden arrive Sunday at the White House. The president is scheduled to visit Europe for talks with allies later this week. ANDREW HARNIK/AP

the most vocal countries in asking fellow NATO members to consider getting more involved to rein in the bloodshed.

Russian President Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine largely has united the U.S. and NATO and European allies, as well as allies in Asia and elsewhere. The United States and European governments see Moscow's military aggression as a threat to their security and strategic interests.

Biden and NATO have said that while the U.S. and NATO will provide weapons and other defensive support to non-NATO member Ukraine, they are determined to avoid any escalation on behalf of Kyiv that risks a broader war with Russia.

with Russia.

The Pentagon on March 9 rejected a Polish proposal for providing Ukraine with MiG fighter jets via a NATO air base, saying allied efforts against the Russian invasion should focus on more useful weaponry and that the MiG transfer with a U.S. and NATO connection would run a "high risk" of escalating the war.

ing the war. Ukraine's president,

Volodymyr Zelenskyy, has pleaded for the U.S. to provide his military with more aircraft and advanced air-defense systems. NATO and the United States have rejected his appeals to establish a "no-fly zone" over Ukraine to suppress Russian air power, saying it would put Western forces in direct conflict with Russian ones.

ones.

After Biden rallied European allies to join in sweeping sanctions against Russia over the invasion at the outset, his tasks now include dealing with some NATO members that are pushing for more involvement directly in the fighting. That includes proposals by Poland for peacekeepers.

Biden's trip includes a summit Thursday of NATO leaders, who will use the meeting to look at strengthening the bloc's own deterrence and defense.

Front-line NATO members on the alliance's eastern flank are also asking for advanced U.S. and British air defense systems to guard against the kind of missile and air assaults Russia is unleashing on Ukraine.

NEWS BRIEFING

US calls Myanmar's repression of Muslim Rohingya genocide

From news services

WASHINGTON Violent repression of the largely Muslim Rohingya population in Myanmar amounts to genocide, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Monday, a declaration intended to both generate international pressure and lay the groundwork for potential legal action.

Authorities made the determination based on confirmed accounts of mass atrocities on civilians by Myanmar's military in a widespread and systematic campaign against the ethnic minority, Blinken said in a speech at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

It is the eighth time since the Holocaust that the U.S. has concluded a genocide has occurred. The secretary of state noted the importance of calling attention to inhumanity even as horrific attacks occur elsewhere in the world, including Ukraine.

"Yes, we stand with the people of Ukraine," he said. "And we must also stand with people who are suffering atrocities in other places.

The government of Myanmar, also known as Burma, is already under multiple layers of U.S. sanctions since a military coup ousted the democratically elected government in February 2021. Thousands of civilians throughout the country have been killed and imprisoned as part of ongoing repression of anyone opposed to

the ruling junta. The determination that a genocide has occurred could lead other nations to increase pressure on the government, which is already facing accusations of genocide at the International Court of Justice in

The Hague. "Our view is that shin-

ing a light on the crimes of Burma's military will increase international pressure, make it harder for them to commit further abuses," said White House press secretary Jen Psaki.

Rohingya, from Muslim Myanmar's western Rakhine state, faced systematic persecution at the hands of the Buddhist majority for decades under both the military junta that ruled the nation for decades as well as the democratically elected government.

More than 700,000 Rohingya have fled from Buddhist-majority Myanmar to refugee camps in Bangladesh since August 2017, when the military launched an operation aimed at clearing them from the country following attacks by a rebel group.

Human rights groups welcomed the determination, which is similar to findings already made by other countries, including Canada, France and Turkey.

Thomas still hospitalized: Justice Clarence Thomas remains hospitalized in Washington after being diagnosed with an infection but does not have COVID-19, the Supreme Court said

Monday. The high court announced Sunday evening that the 73-year-old justice had entered the hospital Friday after experiencing "flu-like symptoms" and underwent tests. The court said that Thomas was diagnosed with an infection and was being treated with intravenous antibiotics.

The court said at the time that "his symptoms are abating," but it did not say that Thomas had tested negative for the virus.

At arguments at the court Monday, Thomas' chair to the right of Chief Justice John Roberts was empty



est oil exporter.

The unusually stark warning marked a departure from the giant oil producer's typically cautious statements, as Saudi officials remain aware that even their smallest comments can swing the price of oil and rattle global markets

The salvo of rebel attacks on Saudi Arabia's oil facilities marked a serious escalation in the war, which erupted in 2014 when the Iran-backed Houthis seized the capital, Sanaa, and much of the country's north.

remains in lockstep with OPEC and other oil-producing countries in a deal limiting production increases.

Afghan girls education: Schools for all students will open this week, Afghanistan's Taliban-run Education Ministry announced Monday in the clearest sign yet that girls will be allowed back in school.

Girls have been denied education beyond Grade 6 since the Taliban swept back into power last August.

The statement said classes

British lawmaker's death:

A man who stabbed a veteran British lawmaker to death last year while he was meeting with voters was a "committed Islamist terrorist" who had spent vears researching and planning potential attacks on lawmakers, a prosecutor said Monday.

Ali Harbi Ali, 26, appeared Monday at London's Central Criminal Court as a trial opened into the murder of Conservative lawmaker attacked Oct. 16 during a meeting in a church hall in eastern England.

Somali heritage, denies charges of murder and

Amess, 69, had been a member of Parliament since

longest-serving Republican in House history, will lie in state in the U.S. Capitol on March 29, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi announced Monday.

Young, who died Friday at 88, was first elected to the House in 1973, was known for his brusque style and for bringing federal investment to the state.

Pelosi's office said a formal ceremony will be held with the Young family, which will be open to invited guests.

Following the memorial service, there will be viewing open to members of Congress.





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BUSINESS

SEC pitches new climate risk rules for companies

Required disclosures part of governmental drive to address global warming

By Marcy Gordon Associated Press

change.

WASHINGTON — Companies would be required to disclose the greenhouse gas emissions they produce and how climate risk affects their business under new rules proposed Monday by the Securities and Exchange Commission as part of a drive across the government to address climate

Under the proposals adopted on a 3-1 SEC vote, public companies would have to report on their climate risks, including the costs of moving away from fossil fuels, as well as risks related to the physical impact of storms, drought and higher temperatures caused by global warming. They would be required to lay out their transition plans for managing climate risk, how they intend to meet climate goals and progress made, and the impact of severe weather events on their finances.

The number of investors seeking more information on risk related to global warming has grown dramatically in recent years. Many companies already provide climaterisk information voluntarily. The idea is that, with uniform required information, investors would be able to compare companies within industries and sectors.

"Companies and investors alike would benefit from the clear rules of the road" in the proposal, SEC Chairman Gary Gens-

The required disclosures would include greenhouse gas emissions produced by companies directly or indirectly such as from consumption of the company's products, vehicles used to transport products, employee business travel and energy used to grow raw materials.

The SEC issued voluntary guidance in 2010, but this is the first time mandatory disclosure rules were put forward. The rules were opened to a public comment period of around 60 days, and they could be modified before any final adoption.

Climate activists and investor groups have clamored for mandatory disclosure of information that would be uniformly required of all companies. The advocates

estimate that excluding companies' indirect emissions would leave out some 75% of greenhouse gas emissions.

On the other hand, major business interests and Republican officials reaching down to the state level began mobilizing against the climate disclosures long before the SEC unveiled the proposed rules Monday.

Hester Peirce, the sole Republican among the four SEC commissioners, voted against the proposal. "We cannot make such fundamental changes without harming" companies, investors and the SEC, she said. "The results won't be reliable, let alone compa-

The SEC action is part of a government-wide effort to identify climate risks, with new regulations planned from various agencies touching on the financial industry, housing and agriculture, among other areas. President Joe Biden issued an executive order last May calling for concrete steps to blunt climate risks, while spurring job creation and helping the U.S. reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change.



Members of the New York Fire Department practice with robotic dogs on March 10 in New York City. MOSTAFA BASSIM/THE NEW YORK TIMES

In NYC, see robot Spot save

Fire department will soon have machine dogs available, but privacy concerns flare up

By Chelsia Rose Marcius The New York Times

NEW YORK — Inside a dimly lit tunnel

along a stretch of simulated subway track, one of the New York Fire Department's new dogs showed off a few of its tricks. Lie down. Roll over. Stav. But the most remarkable things the two

robotic dogs can do were mastered by real dogs long ago: jogging across rugged terrain, hopping over small obstacles and keeping their masters out of harm's way.

The department, which plans to deploy the robots in the months ahead, is the first fire agency in the country to purchase the 70-pound machines, which cost \$75,000 each and are built and sold by Boston Dynamics, a robotics company.

The department plans to use the robots to aid in some of its most precarious search and rescue missions, which might help avoid the furious backlash that erupted when the New York Police Department began using the same technology.

The Police Department cut short its contract with Boston Dynamics in April after critics raised concerns about privacy, data collection, aggressive police tactics and the generally dystopian vibes the robot gave off as it trotted through a public hous-

ing development during a hostage situation. Fire officials and robotics experts say the way the department plans to use the robots might help reshape the perception of their

use for public safety purposes. At the command of a human operator, the device can provide vital information in the midst of a calamitous event. It has the ability to descend deep underground to collect images and data about dangerous debris. It can also be deployed moments after a building collapse to gauge structural integrity or measure the concentration of toxic, flammable gases to better inform firefighters

responding to the scene. The real-life scenarios in which the robots, known as Spot, will be used are far different from Hollywood depictions in which humanoid or animalistic machines often inflict damage and invoke fear, said Capt. Michael Leo from the Fire Department's robotics unit.

"The TV industry and the movie industry are hurting us in some ways because they often show pictures of robots that are weaponized, and then people think that's how all robots are," Leo said. "Our whole mission is a lifesaving one."

A Fire Department spokesman said the robots would only collect data on hazardous materials situations and added that department compliance officers had been trained on confidentiality rules. But Albert Fox Cahn, a lawyer who is executive director of the Surveillance Technology Oversight Project, expressed concerns about what data the Fire Department robots

might collect, and how that could be used. When agencies buy these new systems, they always point to the best case scenario for use," Fox Cahn said. "And I agree, if it actually is used in ways that keeps firefighters safe, that would be great. But the history has always been that even if it's first brought in for a compelling case, you get this creep where it's used for more and more scenarios until it's reaching areas where it just doesn't feel justifiable."

Boston Dynamics said it made its Spot robots commercially available for lease in 2019 and began selling them in 2020. The company predicts it will have sold over 1,000 units by the end of 2022, said Nikolas Noel, a company spokesperson.

Fed: Rate hikes could come faster, be higher

By Christopher Rugaber Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Chair Jerome Powell said Monday that the Federal Reserve would raise its benchmark short-term interest rate faster than expected, and high enough to restrain growth and hiring, if it decides that this would be necessary to slow rampaging

At their meeting last week, Fed officials raised their key rate from near zero to a range of 0.25% to 0.5% and forecast that they would carry out six more quarter-point hikes this year.

Powell said that if necessary, the Fed would be open to raising rates by a more aggressive half-point at multiple meetings and to push rates into "restrictive" territory that would limit growth. The Fed hasn't increased its benchmark rate by a half-point since May 2000.

We will take the necessary steps to ensure a return to price stability," he said in a speech to an economics conference. "In particular, if we conclude that it is appropriate to move more aggressively by raising the federal funds rate by more than (a quarter-point) at a meeting or meetings, we will do so."

The Fed is under pressure from widespread criticism that it has reacted too slowly to a price spike that has catapulted inflation to four-decade highs. At their meeting last week, Fed officials forecast that they would raise rates four additional times in 2023 and that inflation would slow to 2.7% by the end of that year.

At the same time, the policymakers projected that the economy would remain resilient enough to keep growing and that the unemployment rate would fall from its current level of 3.8% to 3.5%, matching a 50-year low reached before the pandemic.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Bond trading in Russia resumes

Russia's central bank reopened bond trading on the Moscow exchange Monday for the first time since the country invaded Ukraine on Feb. 24, with the price of Russia's ruble-denominated government debt falling and sending borrowing costs higher.

The central bank bought bonds to support

The bank has imposed wide-ranging restrictions on financial transactions to try to stabilize markets and combat the severe fallout from Western sanctions that have sent the ruble sharply lower against the U.S. dollar and the euro.

Ratings agencies have downgraded Russia's bonds to "junk" status.

Stock trading remained closed, with no word on when it might reopen.

Russia court bans Facebook parent

MOSCOW - A Moscow court banned Facebook and Instagram on Monday for what it deemed extremist activity in a case against their parent company, Meta.

The Tverskoy District Court fulfilled a request from prosecutors to outlaw Meta Platforms Inc., and banned Facebook and Instagram for what they called "extremist activities." Prosecutors have accused the social media platforms of ignoring government requests to remove what they described as fake news about the Russian military action in Ukraine and calls for protests in Russia.

The court's ruling bans Meta from opening offices and doing business in Russia. Prosecutors haven't requested to ban the Meta-owned messaging service WhatsApp.

Buffett's firm to acquire insurer for \$11.6B

By Michelle Chapman and Josh Funk **Associated Press**

Warren Buffett, who started the year bemoaning the lack of potential acquisitions for his conglomerate, Berkshire Hathaway, announced Monday that it would acquire the insurance company Alleghany for \$11.6 billion.

The scarcity of investment targets over the past several years turned into a cash pile of \$146.7 billion at Berkshire by the end of 2021, but the company appears to have found a suitable place for some of that cash in recent days.

The Omaha, Nebraska, company revealed last week that it had compiled a 14.6% stake in Occidental Petroleum, snap-

ping up an additional \$1 billion worth of shares just between Monday and Wednesday. That was on top of the more than \$6 billion Berkshire spent acquiring shares of the oil producer over the past month.

The all-cash acquisition of Alleghany will expand Berkshire's already considerable insurance holdings, including brands like Geico auto insurance.

"Berkshire will be the perfect permanent home for Alleghany, a company that I have closely observed for 60 years," Buffett said in a prepared statement Monday. "Throughout 85 years the Kirby family has created a business that has many similarities to Berkshire Hathaway."

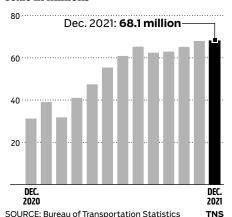
Alleghany's core businesses are in property and casualty reinsurance and insurance, but like Berkshire, it also owns several other businesses, including a steel fabricator and a toy company, and manages an investment portfolio. Edward Jones analyst Jim Shanahan said nearly one-third of Alleghany's revenue came from those operating companies and its investments last

"This is a highly complimentary and very similar franchise," Shanahan said. "I'm really pleased to see Berkshire putting capital to work in the market."

CFRA Research analyst Cathy Seifert said this deal makes sense for both companies because it will provide Alleghany access to Berkshire's massive capital reserves while expanding insurance and reinsurance operations at Buffett's company.

Airline traffic

Monthly scheduled passengers on U.S. airline flights, international and domestic, scale in millions



BUSINESS



The Bonneville Dam near Cascade Locks, Oregon. The dam is located near Bradford Island, which was recently added to the Superfund list of toxic waste sites. RICK BOWMER/AP 2011

Fouled Columbia River island gets added to Superfund sites

Bv Nicholas K. Geranios Associated Press

SPOKANE, Wash. -The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has added Bradford Island and surrounding waters of the Columbia River to its Superfund list of toxic waste sites, beginning the process for the eventual

cleanup of the area. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which operates nearby Bonneville Dam, for years dumped toxic waste on the island 40 miles east of Portland, Oregon, and into a portion of the river. That waste contaminated fish caught and eaten by

The uninhabited Bradford Island is part of the federal Bonneville Dam complex on the Columbia River, which divides Washington and Oregon.

This is a day filled with hope for communities along the Columbia River," EPA Administrator Michael Regan said last week in announcing the decision.

Sen. Jeff Merkley, D-Ore., said the site has been contaminated for decades by cancer-causing PCBs.

"Music to my ears," Merkley said of the EPA's decision to begin what is expected to be a lengthy process toward cleanup. Lets get it done."

Washington Gov. Jay Inslee and Oregon Gov. Kate Brown, both Democrats, also praised the decision by the Biden administration.

"We appreciate the president's leadership," Inslee

Rep. Earl Blumenauer, D-Ore., said he had been working on securing a cleanup decision for more than two decades and worried the work would take just as long.

"After 26 years it's clear we cannot afford to relax,"

Gerald Lewis, a tribal councilman for the Yakama Nation, said the tribe's traditional way of life had been degraded by the pollution in the fish that is an important part of their diet.

"Our goal is clean, healthy, fish that is safe to eat," he said.

"This is a huge victory for people that rely on a clean Columbia," said Lauren Goldberg, legal director for the Columbia Riverkeeper environmental group. "With a Superfund listing, we can finally tackle the pollution problem."

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers used the island as a landfill for 40 years and disposed of electrical equipment in the Columbia River, resulting in contamination from toxic polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs.

The Yakama Nation and the states of Oregon and Washington in recent years called on EPA to take over the stalled-out cleanup.

The agency's decision added Bradford Island to the Superfund list, reserved for the nation's most contaminated sites.

The designation will lead to additional funding and reduce threats to public health and the environment, Goldberg said.

Bradford Island and surrounding waters are fishing areas for multiple Native American tribes, despite advisories warning people not to eat fish found in that part of the river such as bass and sturgeon.

Fish caught near the island contain the highest levels of PCBs in the U.S. Northwest, officials said.

US oil industry faces hurdles amid calls for greater output

By Matthew Brown and Susan Montoya Bryan Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. - In the oil fields of northern Montana, industry veteran Mac McDermott watched crude prices whipsaw from \$75 a barrel in January to more than \$120 as Russia pressed its war in Ukraine, then down again when coronavirus worries in China raised the specter of a global slowdown.

McDermott said his family-owned company will modestly increase drilling if oil prices stabilize. But for the next few months, he's waiting on the sidelines and struggling to get enough workers to watch over roughly 100 oil wells the company operates. That includes some wells idled during the pandemic.

President Joe Biden's move to ban Russian oil imports over its invasion of Ukraine was met with Republican demands to boost U.S. production to address high gasoline prices. The White House, too, called for more drilling and cited the war as it shelved Biden's campaign pledge to curb drilling on public lands because of climate change.

Yet political rhetoric about quickly ramping up U.S. crude output is at odds with the industry's reality: There's not enough workers to rapidly expand, scant money to invest in drilling and wariness that today's high prices won't last, according to industry representatives, analysts and state officials.

"It would be great to produce more domestically," McDermott said. "(But) it's so volatile. ... We haven't had any access to capital for years."

Republicans from energy states have brushed past the industry's logistical constraints to pin blame for slow U.S. oil growth



The U.S, produced about 11 million barrels of oil daily in 2021, but some politicians want greater output now. Above, a pumpjack near Bainville, Montana. MATTHEW BROWN/AP 2013

on Democrats and Biden. Texas Sen. Ted Cruz and Montana Sen. Steve Daines have called for American energy to be "unleashed" and more public lands opened to drilling. Daines accused Democrats of using the Russia oil ban to cover up a supposed scheme to 'ban all oil."

The U.S. doesn't import much Russian oil and Biden's administration has effectively halted new oil or natural gas lease sales from federal lands and waters. But it's approved almost 4,000 new drilling permits on federal lands and companies have thousands more stockpiled.

Federal energy reserves account for about a quarter of U.S. oil, with the remainder coming from private, tribal and state land.

Obstacles to more U.S. oil are surmountable, according to analysts, yet will take months to work through and it could be late this year or early next before a significant production increase materializes

Even with favorable conditions — strong prices,

political pressure and less-cautious shareholders - companies in the U.S. could see production rise by just over 1 million barrels daily by the end of the year, said Robert Johnston with Columbia University's Center on Global Energy Policy. U.S. production last year was about 11 million barrels a day.

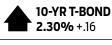
Some of the biggest U.S. reserves are offshore in the Gulf of Mexico. However, the massive platforms used in deep Gulf waters take years to finance, build and put into place.

A near-term boost would have to come from onshore oil resources already developed, such as the Permian Basin in New Mexico and Texas and the Bakken of North Dakota and Montana, said Andy McConn with Enverus, an energy analytics company whose data is used by industry and government agencies. Even in those areas, there's no way to simply crank open the spigot immediately. The most easily accessible reserves already have been drilled, McConn said.

MARKET RUNDOWN

Tuesday, March 22, 2022







Dow Jones industrials Close: 34,552.99 Change: -201.94 (-0.6%) 32.560 37,000 36,000 35.000 34,000 33,000 32,000

I	Domestic I	ndexes	
	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD
DOW Indus.	34,552.99	-201.94	-4.91%
DOW Trans.	16,371.56	-126.16	65%
DOW Util.	990.73	+7.69	+1.01%
NYSE Comp.	16,606.67	-5.98	-3.25%
Nasdaq Comp.	13,838.46	-55.38	-11.55%
S&P 500	4,461.18	-1.94	-6.40%
S&P 400	2,696.45	-9.36	-5.12%
Wilshire 5000	44,923.04	-86.56	-7.30%
Russell 2000	2,065.94	-20.20	-7.99%

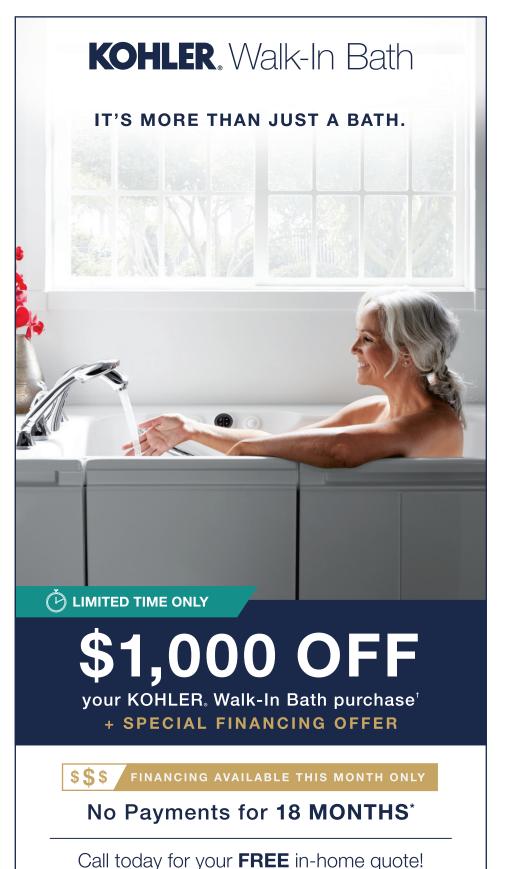
Coi	mmoditi	ies	
FUELS	CLOSE	PREV.	YTD
Crude Oil (bbl)	112.12	104.70	+49.08%
Natural Gas (mm btu)	4.90	4.86	+31.37%
Unleaded Gas (gal)	3.37	3.24	+51.31%
METALS	CLOSE	PREV.	YTD
Gold (oz)	1,928.60	1,928.20	+5.53%
Silver (oz)	25.28	25.06	+8.38%

Foreig	gn Excl	nange	Money	/ Rate	S
	ForEx in U.S. \$	U.S. \$ in ForEx		CLOSE	PREV. WK.
Britain	1.3161	.7598	Prime rate	3.50	3.25
Canada	.7939	1.2597	3-mo. T-Bill	0.56	0.47
China	.1573	6.3560	6-mo. T-Bill	0.95	0.85
Euro	1.1016	.9077	5-yr T-Note	2.33	2.10
Japan	.008369	119.48	10-yr T-Note	2.30	2.14
Mexico	.049091	20.3703	30-yr T-Bond	2.53	2.47
		Clobal	Markots		

Mexico .02	19091 20.3703	30-yr	I-Bona	2.53 2.47
	Global	Marke	ets	_
	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG	. %YTD
Frankfurt	14,326.97	-86.12	60%	-9.81%
London	7,442.39	+37.66	+.51%	+.78%
Hong Kong	21,221.34	-191.06	89%	-9.30%
Nikkei	26,827.43		%	6.82%

Stocks of Local Interest

			YTD				YTD	
STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG	STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG	
AMC Entertainment A (AMC	2) 15.86	+.06	-41.7	Meta Platforms Inc (FB)	211.49	-5.00	-37.1	
AT&T Inc (T)	23.16	06	-5.9	MetLife Inc (MET)	68.77	+.32	+10.0	
Adv Micro Dev (AMD)	115.92	+2.46	-19.4	Micron Tech (MU)	78.35	-1.06	-15.9	
American Airlines Gp (AAL)		66	-10.4	Microsoft Corp (MSFT)	299.16	-1.27	-11.0	
Amphenol Corp (APH)	76.05	49	-13.0	Mullen Automotive (MULN)	3.21	+.31	-38.6	
Apple Inc (AAPL)	165.38	+1.40	-6.9	Novartis AG (NVS)	86.08	71	-1.6	
Avangrid Inc (AGR)	45.23	+.57	-9.3	Nvidia Corporation (NVDA)	267.34	+2.81	-9.1	
Bank of America (BAC)	42.84	06	-3.7	Occid Petl (OXY)	60.96	+4.72	+110.3	
Barnes Group (B)	41.93	+.28	-10.0	Otis Worldwide Corp (OTIS)	77.33	65	-11.2	
BitNile Holdings Inc (NILE)	.83	+.27	-30.3	Palantir Technol (PLTR)	12.59	23	-30.9	
Boeing Co (BA)	185.90	-6.93	-7.7	Peoples Utd Fncl (PBCT)	21.29	+.21	+19.5	
Booking Holdings (BKNG) Brist Myr Sqb (BMY)	2161.39 71.05	-24.92 +.03	-9.9 +14.0	Pfizer Inc (PFE)	54.19	32	-8.2	
CVS Health Corp (CVS)	107.39	+.03	+4.1	Pinduoduo Inc ADS (PDD)	39.99	-2.61	-31.4	
Carnival Corp (CCL)	18.95	51	-5.8	Pitney Bowes (PBI)	5.18	17	-21.9	
Carrier Global Corp (CARR)	47.48	30	-3.6 -12.5	Prudential Fncl (PRU)	116.09	+.86	+7.3	
Charter Communic (CHTR)	565.77	-11.55	-13.2	Pub Svc Ent Gp (PEG)	67.45	+.65	+1.1	
Cigna Corp (CI)	243.51	+2.35	+6.0	Raytheon Technolog (RTX)	99.94	+2.42	+16.1	
Cisco Syst (CSCO)	56.00	+.03	-11.6	Rogers Corp (ROG)	273.37	+.14	+.1	
Clarus Thera Hldgs (CRXT)	1.22	+.45	-49.8				+.1 -4.5	
Comcast Corp A (CMCSA)	46.67	24	-7.3	SS&C Technogies (SSNC)	78.30	61		
DiDi Global Inc (DIDI)	4.16	+.07	-16.5	SoFi Technologies (SOFI)	9.57	30	-39.5	
Disney (DIS)	138.62	-1.68	-10.5	Sthwstn Energy (SWN)	5.35		+14.8	
EMCOR Group Inc (EME)	118.95	67	-6.6	Square Inc (SQ)	134.82	-5.82	-16.5	
Ethan Allen (ETD)	26.10	65	7	Stanley Black & Deck (SWK)		-2.97	-21.4	
Eversource Energy (ES)	84.52	+1.09	-7.1	Starwood Prop Trust (STWD		27	-2.8	
Exela Technologies (XELA)	.50	+.00	-42.5	Sundial Growers Inc (SNDL)		+.01	-8.0	
Exxon Mobil Corp (XOM)	82.20	+3.53	+34.3	Terex Corp (TEX)	39.46	+.11	-10.2	
Ford Motor (F)	16.48	38	-20.7	Tesla Inc (TSLA)	921.16	+15.77	-12.8	
FuelCell Energy (FCEL)	6.54	17	+25.8	Tonix Pharma (TNXP)	.24	+.00	-32.1	
Gen Dynamics (GD)	236.07	+5.84	+13.2	Transocean Ltd (RIG)	4.45	+.19	+61.2	
Gen Electric (GE)	94.82	77	+.4	Travelers Cos (TRV)	182.54	+2.23	+16.7	
Hartford Fn Sv (HIG)	71.51	+.66	+3.6	Uber Technologies (UBER)	31.98	-1.38	-23.7	
Honeywell Intl (HON)	193.02	-1.70	-7.4	United Rentals (URI)	347.80	+1.56	+4.7	
Horizon Tech Fin (HRZN)	13.82		-13.2	UnitedHealth Group (UNH)	507.66	+1.54	+1.1	
Hycroft Mining Holdg (HYM		11	+102.0	Verizon Comm (VZ)	51.10	+.30	-1.7	
Imperial Petroleum (IMPP)	1.50	87	-29.9	Virtus Invest (VRTS)	239.87	+1.36	-19.3	
Infosys Ltd (INFY)	24.21	83	-4.3	Vova Financial (VOYA)	65.44	-1.11	-1.3	
Intel Corp (INTC)	47.39	06	-8.0	Webster Financial (WBS)	57.83	+.11	+3.6	
Kaman (KAMN)	44.36	+.68	+2.8		1055.78	+9.49	+4.1	
Keycorp (KEY) Kidpik Corp (PIK)	23.89 5.79	04 +.04	+3.3 -7.7	World Wrestling Ent (WWE)	59.59	16	+20.8	
Lincoln Natl Corp (LNC)	65.18	+.04 87	-1.1 -4.5	XPO Logistics Inc (XPO)	77.04	+.30	5	
MGM Resorts Intl (MGM)	41.83	0 <i>1</i> 34	-4.5 -6.8	Xerox Holdings Corp (XRX)	19.96	15	-11.8	
Marathon Oil (MRO)	25.05	+1.97	+52.6	Zosano Pharma Corp (ZSAN		+.04	-54.3	
waration on (wko)	23.03	T1.31	+32.0	203ano Filarina Corp (23AN	, .22	⊤. 04	-54.5	



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†Offer ends March 31, 2022. Participating dealers only. Not available in AK; HI; Nassau Cty, Suffolk Cty, Westchester Cty, or City of Buffalo, NY. \$1,000 off average price of KOHLER Walk-In Bath. Dealer sets all prices and is responsible for full amount of discount. Cannot be combined with any other advertised offer. Contact local dealer for financing details. "Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. There is no minimum monthly payment required during the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, equal opportunity lender banks. NMLS #1416362. GreenSky® Program is a program name for certain consumer credit plans extended by participating lenders to borrowers for the purchase of goods and/or services from participating merchants. Participating lenders are federally insured, equal opportunity lender banks. GreenSky® is a registered trademark of GreenSky, LLC. GreenSky Servicing, LLC services the loans on behalf of participating

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PINION

We don't need rabbit processing facilities

By Diana Urban

OP-ED

Apparently there is a huge demand for rabbit meat in the state of Connecticut. Who knew?

As an 18-year veteran of the Connecticut General Assembly and former house chair of the Committee on Children, I certainly didn't. But this cleverly hidden pent-up demand could not be contained and burst out in a bill: HB 5295, An Act Concerning Agricultural Development and Innovation, which is currently in front of the Environment Committee.

Wait a second! Wasn't that same bill language presented to the Commerce Committee about a week ago? The one allowing factory farming and slaughter of rabbits, House Bill 5263, An Act Concerning The Processing of Rabbits for Consumption? And now it shows up again disguised in an agricultural innovation bill in front of another committee? This after more than 100 people presented written testimony in opposition before the Commerce Committee? Doesn't sound like good government to me.

Why would the state of Connecticut move in the direction of allowing farms to raise and slaughter up to 1,000 rabbits? Are kids clamoring for rabbit meat sandwiches in the farm-toschool program? Do we have any data whatsoever indicating that rabbits are hot commodities at area supermarkets?



Then-state Rep. Diana Urban, seen here in 2010 with her dog, Indiana Jones. COURANT FILE PHOTO

Meanwhile there is a significant national movement encouraging a transition to more

plant-based diets and away from confining and slaughtering animals at factory farms.

There are three reasons for this: 1, a move to plant-based diets is climate friendly; 2, confined

animal operations are petri dishes for infectious diseases (think COVID); and 3, you reduce myriad human health risks if you consume more plant-based products, which in turn reduces overall health care costs.

So I ask again, what does the Connecticut Department of Agriculture consider innovative about raising and killing huge numbers of rabbits? Factory farming bunny rabbits just in time for Easter?

I did not see one speck of data supporting this in the bill language or in testimony at either public hearing. Indeed, advocates of the legislation are offering this cart-before-the-horse argument that we can't get data until the bill passes. Really? So we are just going to blindly pass legislation and hope that data miraculously appears to support it?

This is all very disappointing. I worked hard in my years in the General Assembly to insist on data-driven decision-making so that we wouldn't muddle through by passing inane laws that not only create more bureaucracy but drag Connecticut backward.

With apologies to the bard: something is rotten in the Connecticut Department of Agri-

Diana Urban was a Connecticut legislator for 18 years and served as chair of the Committee on Children. She now serves as founder and president of Protecting Kids and Pets Partnership.

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Living Here: What is it really like to live in Connecticut?

We welcome all submissions and will publish the best. We especially look for younger writers and those whose voices aren't heard often enough. Essays should be 600-700 words, written in the first person and emailed to oped@courant.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Pass bill that would help those seeking an abortion

March 10 was the day that a Congressional resolution recognizes as National Abortion Provider Appreciation Day. This coincides with Connecticut's General Assembly considering HB 5261, An Act Increasing Access to Reproductive Health Care. The bill would expand abortion providers to include advanced practice

I became pregnant while attending UConn in 2014 and felt hopeless. UConn Student Health Services had nurse practitioners who provided medically accurate and compassionate answers to my questions. The NPs in Storrs helped me schedule care at the Hartford GYN Center. At my abortion, clinicians and physicians offered the same caliber of care that maintained my dignity, trust and confidence in my

I cannot remember any one provider's title from my abortion eight years ago, and yet I remember my abortion as a positive experience thanks to these providers. They are the reason I could graduate college and, later, law school.

Because of unprecedented hostility, abortion seekers are regularly traveling to Connecticut for health care. Knowing the national climate, the General Assembly can affirm abortion rights by expanding the

number of providers in our state. I hope the clinicians at UConn Student Health Services and the Hartford GYN Center know how much I appreciate them, and how much of my life I owe to them.

I urge the General Assembly to remember what they owe their constituents and

Kelley Huber, Simsbury

Shouldn't be this difficult to get state tax forms

Why is it so hard to get a state tax form? I had the same problem as the letter writer from Wethersfield. No forms at libraries. Call 860-297-5962, wait on hold for 30 minutes. A real person to talk to? Not sending forms to any homes? Go in person to the revenue department?

The state should be able to provide forms easier - or maybe they don't care if you file? Ha ha.

Bert Race, East Hartford

State needs Contracting Standards Board

The Lamont administration's attempt to eradicate the Contracting Standards Board's authority arises from the fact that people from the private sector enter public service with the belief that if they could get out from under all those statutes, regulations and rules, which are intended to provide safeguards against taking excessive risks with taxpayer money, real progress can be achieved.

With this is the desire to eliminate oversight and accountability. The problem is that there's a real difference between the private sector and the public sector.

In the private sector, taking risks where there is significant reward is encouraged. The difference in applying this model to government is that government projects utilize taxpayer funds, and minimizing risk should be the objective. That's why those "cumbersome" statutes, rules and regulations exist, to ensure there is good stewardship of public funds.

It's troubling that this administration continues to pursue a policy of eliminating oversight and restricting the board's ability to fulfill its statutory mandate to oversee and improve state procurement processes. This is not in the best interests of the people of Connecticut.

Bruce Buff, Avon

A triumvirate of brutal dictators

Stalin, Lenin, Putin. Hmm? Helen Kope, West Suffield

OP-ED

Housing near transit stations would make Connecticut a better place

By David Fink

"There's no such thing as a free lunch," Milton Friedman, the conservative economist, once asserted.

But conservatives in Connecticut running many towns and representing them in the legislature — have been getting a free lunch for years.

The latest evidence was Monday, when conservative lawmakers — some willfully ignorant, one outrageous — stubbornly opposed a proposal for housing near transit stations that would, if adopted, make Connecticut a much better state for every-

They don't like the idea because, for the first time in a long time, their lunch would no longer be free.

Many of their constituents have been getting convenient commuter rail service and enjoying towns with abundant services and high-resource schools while shutting out most of the vital lowerpaid workers who cut their lawns, cut their hair, make their lattes and care for their elderly parents.

They typically say they "support affordable housing, just not this proposal." But their credibility is shot. Case in point: In a decade, Westport has added a paltry 108 homes for working-class residents. Not much progress unless, perhaps, you're a

This bill would mean those towns would have to give something back to Connecti- cut — if only allowing some new neighbors in to share the quality of life they've been

In a marathon public hearing that Monday, proponents underscored the vital necessity for a bill that would require higher-density homes within walking distance of the 40-plus mass transit stations in Connecticut "as-of-right" — without a public hearing or special permit, just as single-family homes are allowed to be



Commuters in New Haven's Union Station. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

Ironically, justification for the bill stems from a reality Republicans and Democrats agree upon — Connecticut's cost of living is too high, taxes are too high, many businesses can't afford to raise wages and many workers can't afford basic necessities.

The bill would provide real solutions. At the hearing — unlike fellow Republican Rep. Kimberly Fiorello, who shamefully contended housing is not a right - state Sen. Dan Champagne, R-Vernon, nicely stated Connecticut is too expensive, but veered off-course, suggesting tax cuts were the panacea.

But snipping a half point off the sales tax would save nickels and dimes. This bill would offer real savings for state residents:

1. Beleaguered employers will hear fewer demands for wage increases - and be better able to attract workers — if workers' housing expense was lowered.

At 32%, housing is the largest cost in an average budget. By definition, homes guaranteed to be affordable would lessen residents' burden. Plus, that affordable home near a station would allow the resident to take the train more often, reducing his average 19% transportation cost – gas, maintenance, insurance – to 9%. Moreover, an apartment sharing ceilings, floors and walls with other units would share heat, thus lowering the energy bill.

2. Connecticut's population would expand: state taxes would be lower if we had more taxpayers.

The state is near the bottom in population growth and housing units built. In particular, most Fairfield County towns and most of them with rail service — have shut out new population by refusing over the years to add affordable homes workers would move here to buy or rent. Baby Boomers are retiring out of state because they can downsize to less expensive homes Connecticut towns aren't allowing. Meanwhile, most younger workers can't afford Connecticut's single-family homes (See: education debt) and towns aren't permitting affordable rentals. We need more population, aka taxpayers.

3. Municipalities would collect more revenue and keep local taxes lower if they built the denser multifamily homes the market is demanding.

Because housing near transit is in even greater demand, those municipal grand lists would be bolstered further. Plus, the bill impacts only station-proximate areas, where density is more palatable.

4. State aid could be used more wisely. In this, the nation's highest per capita income state, wealthy residents drive up costs for all goods and services. State government must help less fortunate households afford necessities. Cutting their housing, transportation and energy expenses by ensuring housing near transit will allow the legislature more flexibility in appropriating limited resources.

Frankly, the legislature should mimic Massachusetts: require transit municipalities to create denser zones near stations and provide grants to help them.

But no free lunch: towns that don't create those zones should lose state grants and capital funding, also like Massachu-

This state has huge housing, population, cost-of-living and high-tax problems. Housing near stations can help solve them. Housing is a right, Rep. Fiorello, unless you believe people should live in caves.

David Fink is a housing policy consultant and a former reporter and editor at the Courant.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

Hartford

Notice of Public Sale: The following self-storage Cube contents containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart at 55 Research Parkway. Old Saybrook, CT 06475 to satisfy a lien on April 05, 2022 at approx. 12:00 p.m. at www.

Unit 410: Derek Skinner Unit 2221: Linda Stewart

Unit 2253: Mary Sobolewski Unit 2372: Amy Nigtingale

Unit 2438: George Scherber 3rd 3/22 & 3/24/22 7173199

Request For Quotation #02-2118A

The State of Connecticut Judicial Branch invites licensed plumber(s) to submit quotations to provide plumbing services as required at Judicial Branch location in Hartford, Connecticut,

Ouotations must be received by 11:30 A.M. on FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2022. Late bids will VENDORS CURRENTLY REGISTERED UNDER

THE STATE'S SMALL BUSINESS SET-ASIDE PROGRAM ARE ENCOURAGED TO BID. Bid package may be obtained by accessing the Judicial Branch Purchasing Services web site below.

www.jud.ct.gov/external/news/busopp/

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action

March 21, 2022 Bid Notice 2200 for The Diaper Bank of Connecticut Furnishing Three Million (3,000,000) Infant And Toddler Dianers To The Dianer Bank Of Connecticut is available at the Diaper Bank of Connecticut's www.thediaperbank.org/

3/21-3/25/2022 7172882

LEGAL NOTICE AND INVITATION TO BID THE OPERA HOUSE PLAYERS PROFESSIONAL FUNDRAISING SERVICES

The Opera House Players is seeking proposals for a Fundraising Consultant (individual or organization) to lead its Board members and staff in building their fundraising capacity and developing a fundraising plan for the

RFP responses must be received by 5:00 p.m., Friday, April 8, 2022. Any responses received after the deadline will not be

The RFP documents will be available on the The RFP documents will be available on the Opera House Players' website at www.operahouseplayers.org/rfp. Questions may be submitted by email at rfp@operahouseplayers.org. The Opera House Players reserves the right to accept or reject any, all, or any part of the responses, and to make awards that are deemed to be in the best interest of The Opera House Players. 3/22/2022 7173985

Looking for anyone who worked at Raytheon in Farmington or Hartford 1957-1959.
Please call 314-277-6650 3/22/2022 7174359

Looking for anyone who worked at Electro Motive 1950-1952. Please call 314-277-6650

Connecticut

Legal Notice quest for Proposals **Automated Work Zone Speed Control** Design-Build Pilot Project

Connecticut Department The Connecticut Department of Transportation is seeking to engage a contracting firm to provide services related to Automated Work Zone Speed Control pilor project. More detailed information regarding this project can be found at: https://webprocure.perfect.com/wp-web-public/#/bidboard/bid/985407customerid=51

Connecticut Department of Transportation An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

3/17-4/1/2022 7171086

Request For Quotation #02-2118A

The State of Connecticut Judicial Branch invites licensed plumber(s) to submit quotations to provide plumbing services as required at Judicial Branch locations in Hartford, Connecticut,

Quotations must be received by 11:30 A.M. on FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2022. Late bids will VENDORS CURRENTLY REGISTERED UNDER

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www.jud.ct.gov/external/news/busopp/ An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with City of Hartford Municipal Code Section 29-16, the Hartford Police Department is in possession of unclaimed found property for which the owner cannot be located.

be located. If you believe that some of this property is yours, phone the HPD Property Room at 860 757-4180 weekdays 7:A.M to 2:30 RM. Berpeared to provide a detailed description of the property, the circumstances of its loss, and proof of ownership as necessary. Positive identification is required before property will be released. If not claimed, items may be sold at public auction, destroyed, donated, or released to a finder. 1/4-3/29/2022 7112251

1/4-3/29/2022 7112251 The Board of Health of the Farmington Valley Heath District will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 5th at 12:00pm, via Zoom link. For oral comments please call the Farmington Valley Health at 860-352-2333 for link. Copies of proposed budget for fiscal year 2022-2023 may be obtained from Farmington Valley Health District, 860-352-2333. Witten comments may be sent to 95 River Road, Canton, CT 06019.



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OBITUARIES BY TOWN

Middletown

Avon James Hannoosh Irene D. Pockoski Berlin

Bristol Donald W. Robinson Joseph P. Vigue

Burlington Joseph P. Vigue Canton

Daniel Cuddy **East Hartford** Masako T. C. Carini Helen M Long **Enfield** Patricia Olsen

Ralph G. Robinson Glastonbury Wendy A. Grant Helen M Long Hartford Masako T. C. Carini

James Hannoosh Annie E Lewis Marlborough Rosa J. Sullivan Meriden

Wendy A. Grant

Arthur M. Kohs Sebastian A. Randino **New Britain** Catherine Marut Norman Fortier Constance S. Poitras **Old Lyme** Mary C. Schroeder Old Saybrook Lorraine M. Vickery Other Towns in CT Donald W. Robinson Cromwell Norman Fortier

Robert R. Depellegrini Patricia E Hul Arthur M. Kohs Catherine Marut

Rocky Hill Daniel Cuddy South Windsor Lorraine M. Vickery **West Hartford**

Carol M Christopher Annie E Lewis Irene D. Pockoski Wethersfield Rosa J. Sullivan

Windsor Thomas P. Woble **OUT OF STATE** Masako T. C. Carini Spring Hill, TN

Denotes name listing only. Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

OBITUARIES

Christopher, Carol M

Carol M Christopher Dec. 6, 1938 - Dec. 28, 2021 Join our celebration of Carol's life, at Rockledge Grille, 289 South Main St West Hartford, Ct. May 22, 2022 12 - 3 pm

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Cuddy, Daniel

Daniel John Cuddy, 73, of Rocky Hill, CT formerly of Wilton and Stamford, CT, passed away on March 12th. Dan was predeceased by his wife Jane, his parents Joseph and Eileen, and his brothers Joseph and Kevin. He is survived by his daughter Christine and her husband Joseph, his son Daniel and his wife Rebecca, and his grandchildren Isabella, Abigail, Jane, and Jameson. Dan was a dedicated husband, brother, father, and grandfather. He will be remembered for the projects he completed while plying his trade as a carpenter, the laughter he brought to those he knew, and the memories of all the great meals he made. Per his wishes there are no services planned. However, if you wish to do something in his honor – donations can be made in his name to MS Society, Little People of America or

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

DePellegrini, Robert R.



Robert R. DePellegrini, 84, of Stafford Springs, CT passed away on Monday, March 21, 2022 at Evergreen Health Care Center. He was born in Stafford, son of the late Albert and Mildred (Woods) DePellegrini, Sr. Bobby is survived by his loving wife of 64 years, Dolores (Gianantoni) DePellegrini; four children and families: their Donna

Watkinson and her husband Jack, and their children Megan and Devon, Dino DePellegrini and his wife Christine, and their children Dominic, Francesca and Vincenzo, Diane Young, and Debra Kennedy and her children Jordan and Jenna; and many nieces, nephews and cousins. He was predeceased by two sons-in-law, Thomas Young and Shaun Kennedy; his brother, Albert DePellegrini, Jr.; and his sister, Nancy Jakobsen. Funeral services and burial at St. Edward Cemetery, Stafford Springs, CT will be private. Memorial donations may be made to St. Edward Church, 27 Church St., Stafford Springs, CT 06076 or the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK 73123. Introvigne Funeral Home, Inc., Stafford Springs, CT has care of the arrangements. To leave a message of sympathy for the family, please visit: www.introvignefuneralhome.com

Introvigne Funeral Home, Inc.

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Grant, Wendy Ann (Mazzucchi)



Wendy Ann (Mazzucchi) Grant, 71, of Glastonbury, passed away surrounded by loved ones on March 19, 2022. Born ones on March 19, 2022. Born on May 22, 1950 in Hartford, she was the daughter of the late Demo and Norma (Lowry) Mazzucchi. Wendy had a zest for life. She enjoyed family, friends, a good book, her toes in the beach sand, and always provided the right advice at the standard of the standard dancing dancing dancing dancing dancing dancing dancing

the right time to so many. She loved traveling, dancing and was a fantastic cook. She is survived by her husand was a fantastic cook. She is survived by her husband James Gary Grant, of Glastonbury; her son, Ryan Grant of Glastonbury; her son, Justin Grant and his wife Julie Ann of Ipswich, MA; her cherished grandchildren Jack and Hazel Grant of Ipswich. She is also survived by her brother, Ralph Mazzucchi and his wife Anita of Manchester; her sister in law Paula McDonnell of Hamden; her sister in law Robin Cianciolo of Larkspur, CA and her husband Lenny; and her brother in law Bruce Grant and his girlfriend Sandi Garde of Milford; as well as several nieces, nephews and cousins. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Thursday, March 24, 2022 at Ss. Isidore and Maria Parish at St. Paul Church, 2577 Main St., Glastonbury. Entombment will be in Holy Cross Cemetery. Friends may call on Wednesday, March 23, 2022 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Mulryan Funeral Home, 725 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury. For online condolences, please visit www.mulryanfh. com.

MULRYAN FUNERAL HOME

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hare memories, express condolences, and celebrate life in the obituary section on courant.com.

OBITUARIES

Carini, Masako Tawata Charette



Masako Tawata Charette Carini, of Spring Hill, formerly of East Hartford, CT, born June 15, 1931 in Okinawa, Japan, and passed away March 18, 2022 in Spring Hill, TN. Our loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, the matriarch of our family, went to heaven on the wings of angels on this day. The love for her family knew no bounds. Masako was a caring friend, had a wonderful sense of humor, was an avid gardener and

She is predeceased by her husband: Robert J. Carini; father and mother: Shinkichi and Nabi

Tawata; three siblings; son: Raymond Charette. She is survived by a daughter and son-in-law: Rachel and Leonard Frenette; three sons and their spouses: Roy Charette and Pam Kane, Roland Charette and Robert and Ashley Charette; sister: Yoshiko Miyazato; 11 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren.

A celebration of life will be held later this summer in CT. In lieu of flowers, donations in Masako's name may be made to the National Audubon Society or Room in the Inn, SPRING HILL MEMORIAL PARK, FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATION SERVICES, 5239 Main Street, Spring Hill,

TN 37174. 931 486-0059 www.springhill-memorial.com

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Hul, Patricia E (Perry)



COLUMBIA, Conn. -- Patricia 'Tricia' Perry Hul, who made a mark in pursuits both professional and artistic, died unexpectedly on March 15 at her home in Columbia. She was 59 years old.

Born in Gloucester, Mass. daughter of Rolland and Frances Perry, she grew up and attended schools in Manchester-by-the-Sea, Mass., before going to the University of Connecticut,

where she earned a bachelor of science degree in physical therapy. It was at UConn. where she met her future husband, Andrew Hul, with whom she raised two Following a long career in physical therapy Tricia found

her true passion, designing and building award-winning sets for the Windham Theater Guild, in Willimantic. She later planned musical events for Columbia's Heartstone Winery and volunteered at the Saxton B. Little Library.

Known as a loving daughter, wife, mother, and sister, Tricia relished the role of hostess, joyfully welcoming any and all to her home. Strangers became friends, and "Mom" is how she was known to the friends of her children

Her interests and talents went to great heights and depths -- literally -- for she had enjoyed scuba diving and flew single-engine aircraft after earning her pri-

Most of all, Tricia enjoyed spending time with her family on Columbia Lake, playing a good board game or telling a bad joke. She loved and sheltered cats, whether one or five.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her brother, Christopher Perry, of Manchester-bythe-Sea. Besides her husband, Andrew, she leaves a daughter, Julianna Hul, of Somerville, Mass.; a son, Ryan Hul, of Columbia; and two sisters, Sharron Cohen, wife of David, of Gloucester, Mass., and Suzanne Launer, widow of Fred, of Sterling, Alaska. A celebration of Tricia's life will be held at 1 p.m.

on Saturday, March 26, at the Windham Theater Guild. (Parking, on Meadow Street, is at the rear of the theater.) Her ashes will be interred later in the Perry family plot, in Manchester-by-the-Sea.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Windham Theater Guild, 779 Main St., Willimantic, CT

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Lewis, Annie E (Johnson)



the telephone.

Annie Edith Lewis, 89, of West Hartford, passed away peacefully on February 2,2022. Annie was born and February raised in Hartford, a town she lived in for many years before moving to West Hartford Annie was a loyal in1976. employee at Bank Of America for 35 years, continuing to work as a quarter timer after retirement. Annie was also a

neighborhood Avon Lady for 15 years, where she earned her way into the Presidents Club. Annie enjoyed playing card games such as Set Back, Rummy, Michigan Rummy and Solitaire. Annie also loved the board game Parcheesi. She was also an avid fan of television game shows, movie musicals and her beloved Walker Texas Ranger. What she loved most however was catching up with friends and family on

Annie was the loving wife of 58 years to James A. Lewis Sr. who passed away in 2018. Annie was predeceased by her parents Rubin and Marion Johnson, her sisters Marie, Arline and Edwina and her brother Malcolm. She is survived by her daughter Pamela Lewis, son James A. Lewis Jr., daughter-in-law Nancy Lewis and grandson Nathan Garnica. Annie also leaves behind several nieces and nephews.

Annie requested a celebration of life be held in her honor as opposed to traditional funeral services. We request all of Annie's loved ones to join us in celebrating her beautiful life at Calvary Church, 1855 Albany Ave., West Hartford, Ct. 06117 on April 9, 2022 at 10:00

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Marut, Catherine



Catherine Marut, 97, of Kensington passed peacefully on Sunday, March 20 with family by her side. Catherine was born January 23, 1925 to the late Stanley and Mary (Smuda) Polgroszek and was a life-long resident of Berlin. She was a waitress at Shuttle Meadow Country Club and a member of St. Paul Catholic

Catherine was an avid gardener who enjoyed flowers and had many beautiful flower gardens around her home. Above all her greatest joy in life was spending time with her family who she loved dearly. Catherine was a kind, generous soul and will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

Catherine leaves behind her children Marcia Lechowicz (Stephen), Deborah Marut and Paul Marut all of Kensington. Her grandchildren Catherine Sullivan (Brennan), Stephen Lechowicz Jr. (Kimberly), Paul Marut Jr. (Samantha), and Jason Lechowicz (Susan). Also, her great-grandchildren Maxwell, Kadence, Ryan, Jack, Cara, Sadie, June, and Luke. Besides her parents she was predeceased by her husband Peter Marut Sr., son Peter Marut Jr., 2 brothers and 4 sisters.

Services will be held Wednesday, March 23 at Berlin Memorial Funeral Home, 96 Main Street, Kensington from 10-11am. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Paul Church, 485 Alling Street, Kensington at 11:30am. Burial to follow at Maple Cemetery. Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

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Legacy.com



Kohs, Arthur M.



Arthur M. Kohs of Cromwell CT, formerly of Higganum CT for 47 years, passed away peacefully at his home on Sunday, March 20, 2022. Arthur, the son of Max and horn in Arthur, the son of max and Miriam Kohs, was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., on April 29, 1937, and moved to Hadlyme, CT, in 1938. "Artie," as he was affectionately called, graduated from Nathan Hale Pay ated from Nathan Hale Ray

High School in Moodus CT in 1955. He earned a Bachelor of Science from Springfield College in 1959, and a Master of Science from the University of Oregon in 1960. That same year, he began his teaching career in Hanover Park High School in New Jersey. In 1961, he returned to Hale Ray High School as teacher, Director of Athletics, and head coach for soccer, basketball, and baseball, winning multiple championships including the class S soccer state championships in 1961 and 1962. In 1963, Art was hired by Xavier High School in Middletown as its Director of Athletics and teacher of physical education. Art was Xavier's first hire, as the school was being constructed, and was charged with building Xavier's athletic program. At Xavier, Art also served in numerous other capacities including as Xavier's first head basketball coach from 1963-1979. He amassed over 200 victories and reached the CIAC state semifinals in 1969 and 1975. As Athletic Director, Art was instrumental in the formation of both the All-Connecticut Conference, and in 1994, the Southern Connecticut Conference of which Xavier is a member today. Art was also active in athletics outside of Xavier. He served as a soccer official for 25 years for the Central Connecticut Soccer Officials Association and the CT State Soccer Officials Association, working numerous state championship games, and was also past president of both organizations. He served on numerous committees for the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference, Connecticut Association of Athletic Directors, and the Connecticut High School Coaches Association. Along with his longtime friends, coach Jake Salafia of Cromwell HS, and coach Wally Camp of Coginchaug HS, Art co-owned the Fundamental Basketball Camp located first in Moodus, then at Mitchell College in New London for over 25 years. Art earned numerous awards throughout his career, including the Central CT Soccer Officials Distinguished Service Award, the Central CT Board of Basketball Officials Commissioners Award, the National Interscholastic Athletic Administration Association State Award of Merit, the CT Association of Athletic Directors Distinguished Service Award, and the Connecticut High School Coaches Association Dedicated Service to Youth Award. He was inducted into Xavier's Hall of Honors in 1988, the Nathan Hale-Ray High School Sports Hall of Fame in 1993, and the Middletown Sports Hall of Fame in 2003, alongside his daughter Paula. After his retirement from Xavier in 1997, he was honored with the naming of Xavier's gym as the Arthur M. Kohs Gymnasium. Art remained active throughout his retirement. He was on staff as an assistant basketball coach for several years for his son Michael at Xavier. He also continued to serve the Southern Connecticut Conference as its scheduling coordinator until his passing. Beyond his professional career, Art was devoted to his loving wife Carolyn and to his children and his grandchildren. He coached his children in Little League baseball, and always enjoyed playing golf with his family and friends. He and Carolyn never missed any athletic events of their children and grandchildren. Art and Carolyn were passionate supporters of both Xavier and Mercy High Schools, especially their basketball teams. When his mobility slowed and he sometimes couldn't attend games in person, he continued to support both teams by watching their livestream broadcasts. Arthur was predeceased by Carolyn Kohs, his loving wife of 55 years. He leaves behind son Todd Kohs and wife Suzanne of Cheboygan, MI; son Michael Kohs and wife Robin, and grandchildren Sarah, Stephen, and Lauren of Portland CT; son Tim Kohs and wife Carlye, and grandchildren Avery and Brett of Higganum, CT; and daughter Paula Kohs Drake and husband Mark, and grandchildren Thomas, Emma, Leah, and Clara of Waxhaw, NC. He also leaves his sister-in-law Diana Schleis, nieces Kim Fetera, Barbara Walker, and Lorraine Schleis, nephew Joseph Schleis, and their families. Art was also predeceased by his infant son Thomas Kohs, and his two brothers-in-law, Edward Schleis Jr., and Arthur Schleis. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Artie's name to the Arthur M. Kohs Scholarship Fund at Xavier High School or to Mercy High School Athletics. Visiting hours will be on Wednesday (Mar. 23rd) from 4 to 7 p.m. at Biega Funeral Home, 3 Silver St., Middletown, CT. The Funeral Mass will be held at St. Pius X Church, 310 Westfield St., Middletown, CT. To share memories or express condolences online please visit www.biegafuneralhome.com. as the Arthur M. Kohs Gymnasium. Art remained active throughout his retirement. He was on staff as an asin Moodus, CT. To share memories or express condolences online please visit www.biegafuneralhome.com.

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OBITUARIES

Hannoosh, James



James G. Hannoosh, Ph.D. aged 74, died peacefully on March 18, 2022, at his home in West Barnstable, MA, after a long illness.

Born in Lynn, MA, on February 21, 1948, he was the eldest child of Mitchell M. Hannoosh Eleanor B. Hannoosh. A graduate of Wakefield High School, he received a BSME with honors

from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, followed by an MSME and a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

During his time at MIT, he married Linda (Rugg), his wife of 47 years, who predeceased him in 2018. They were a team in all aspects of their lives — family, work, and business

Jim's professional career focused on the development and commercialization of products based on advanced materials, especially ceramics: custom dental implant abutments, ceramic bearings, advanced ceramic cutting tools, internal combustion engines, and more. He obtained 8 patents and filed for many more, including a self-righting cane called the Raising Cane™, which he invented with his father to help his mother.

He began his career at Foster Miller Associates, moving on to the Norton Company. He then worked for the successful start-ups Cerbec and Atlantis Components, both of which were later acquired by major companies He also spent many years consulting for private equity firms in business and new product development across a broad range of advanced technologies. The consummate engineer, he was passionate about creating new products, bringing them to market and building the infrastructure to ensure profitability. His work took him to many countries in Europe and Asia.
In retirement, he continued to consult for many com-

panies for his knowledge, ingenuity, and expertise He also mentored many professionals whom he met throughout his career.

Jim was an avid fisherman, boater, and enjoyed sharing this with friends and family. He was a skilled wood-worker, crafting many items of furniture over the years. He loved clocks and maintained many in his home. Ever the tinkerer, he always had a series of projects under way. For many, he was the "go-to" person for advice on all things mechanical and technical, as he generously shared his talents and ideas. He was extremely devoted to his family. Jim was also well-known for his lively sense of humor and was hilariously funny.

He is survived by his son James and daughter-in-law Sarah (Buitenhuys) of Bolton, his daughter Sarah of Quincy, his brother Charles of Boxford, sister Michele and husband Richard Janko of Ann Arbor, MI, his brother Gregory and wife Diana of Kittery Point, Maine, his grandchildren, Sadie and Landon Hannoosh, and his partner Kathy Jansen of Osterville, as well as many nieces, nephews and their children.

Visiting hours will be at the Chapman Funeral Home, John-Lawrence Chapel, 3778 Falmouth Rd. Marstons Mills, MA on Thursday, March 24 from 4-7pm. A funeral mass in his memory will be held on Friday March 25at 11am at Our Lady of Victory Church, 230 S. Main St. Centerville, burial will follow at the Lothrop Hill Cemetery in Barnstable.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the liver tumor program at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, the American Liver Foundation, or the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation.

For online guestbook & directions, visit www.chapman-

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Fortier, Norman



Norman Fortier, Age 91 husband of Lucille (Beaudoin) Fortier of Waterford, CT peacefully passed away at his home on January 18, 2022, with his family by his Norman was born on side. 8. 1930. in Lewiston. Maine to the late Bertrand and Delia (Rioux) Fortier. Norman spent most of his life in New Britain, CT where he

He was a veteran of the Korean War, having served in the United States Air Force. Following his military service, he spent his entire career in insurance sales where he eventually became co-owner of Leclerc and Fortier Insurance Agency in New Britain, retiring in 1982. In 2004, he and his wife moved to a retirement community in Southington, CT where they lived for 17 years. In 2021, they moved to the home of their daughter and her family in Waterford, CT. This past July, Norman and Lucille celebrated 70 years of marriage. Besides his wife, he is survived by his sister Jacqueline Wasielewski of Port St. Lucie, FL. He leaves his six children: Gary and his wife Roxanna of Jacksonville, TX, Michael and his wife Anne of Victor, ID, Russell and his wife Paula of Del Rey Beach, FL, Susan Rackstraw and her husband Bill of Winnetka, CA, Marylou Calderone and her husband John of Waterford, CT and Sandra Lee and her husband John of Burlington, CT. He also leaves nine grandchildren, Jeremy Fortier, Jessica Fortier (Ulmer), Danielle Fortier (Easter), Rachel Fortier, Michael Calderone, Catherine Calderone, Tanner Lee, Juliana Lee and Jocelyn Lee, and five great-grandchildren, Raynee Fortier, Cora Fortier, Henry Ulmer, Emmett Ulmer, and Caroline Easter, as well as several nieces

graduated from New Britain High School, Class of 1949.

Most people would describe Norm as a force of nature, with a great sense of humor and a deep love for his family and friends. He made a lasting impression on people everywhere he went. He loved traveling and was an avid pilot, flying to multiple destinations in his beloved Cessna, with his wife by his side as his copilot. Besides his family, Norm's proudest achievement was his 49 years of sobriety, a cause that led him to help hundreds of others through his involvement with

Norman's family would like to express their deepest gratitude to the Masonicare hospice team for their wonderful care and support. Special thanks to his longtime friends Richie Cyr and Don Maddox who were like sons to him and were always there to lend a helping hand, as well as his newest BFF, Eddie Rando, who brought great joy into his life since his move to Waterford.

A celebration of life will be held at the New Britain Memorial – Donald D. Sagarino Funeral Home in New Britain, CT on March 25, 2022, from 3-6 PM. A military burial will follow on March 26, 2022, at 11 AM at the Veterans Cemetery in Middletown, CT. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in his memory to the Shriners Hospital for Children or the Tunnels to Towers Foundation.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.NewBritainSagarino.com for the Fortier family.

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Schroeder, Mary Caldwell

Mary Caldwell Schroeder, of Lyme, CT and Santa Fe, NM, passed away at her home in Santa Fe on December 5, 2021. Mary was born on May 3, 1960 to John Schroeder and Julie Morsman Schroeder. Mary and her younger brother John (Jock) grew up in Omaha, NE. The family enjoyed yearly summer vacations in Wyoming, riding horses in the sage covered foothills of the Bighorns. Like her mother and grandmother, Mary graduated from Smith College in Northampton, MA. It was at Smith that Mary met her partner and future wife Catherine Spencer. After graduating with a degree in Art History, Mary moved to New York for a job at the auction house Christie's. Later moving to Lyme, CT, Mary joined the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art in Hartford, CT, ultimately rising to the position of Registrar. Mary and Cathy married in 2014, and lived in an 18 th Century farmhouse which they beautifully renovated over the years, adding modern industrial elements while retaining the rustic sensibilities of the original structure. A dedicated conservationist, Mary purchased a large parcel of adjacent land and put it into conservation trust. At retirement, Mary and Cathy discovered Santa Fe and a second home, and would road trip each spring and fall between Connecticut and New Mexico with their beloved dogs. Mary was a loyal supporter of the arts and other charitable causes. She was an avid reader and would often surprise friends with gifts of her favorite novels. She loved bicycling, yoga, jigsaw puzzles, and cooking, but treasured most of all her family and friends, who will forever remember her irreverent sense of humor, intelligence, empathy, and generous spirit. Mary leaves behind her wife Catherine Spencer, mother Julie Schroeder, of Omaha, NE, brother Jock Schroeder, of Story, WY, niece Cate Schroeder, of Santa Fe, dogsRosie and Moses, and many, many friends.

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Long, Helen M (Murphy)

Helen (Marge) M. Long (Murphy), 96, born November 23, 1925 in New Haven, CT, daughter to the late Thomas Murphy and Margaret (Gilchrist) Murphy. Helen resided most of her life in East Hartford, CT and most recently at the Glastonbury Health Care Center. Helen passed peacefully in her sleep on Friday 3/18/22. In 1947 she married Thomas Long and together they raised four children, Richard (Sandra) Long, East Hartford, CT, Geraldine (Don) Pinney, Berlin, CT, Robin (Joseph) Petrie, East Hartford, CT, Edward (Deborah) Long, Portland, CT.

Per Helen's request the celebration of life will be private

For further information and to leave a memory or to make a donation in lieu of flowers please visit. Abbey Cremation Service. https://www.abbeycremation.com/ post/helen-m-long-1925-2022

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Pockoski, Irene D.Krusinski



Irene D. (Krusinski) Pockoski, 94, beloved wife of the late Philip E. Pockoski, of West Hartford and formerly of Avon, passed away, Saturday, March 19, 2022. Born in Norwich, she was raised in Hartford and graduated from Bulkeley High School and earned her BA as a Registered Nurse at Joseph's College, Hartford. She began her nurs-

ing career at Backus Hospital and spent over 37 years at Bristol Hospital. Irene was a writer and published four books: one of short stories and three of poetry. She loved stamp collecting with her husband and had been secretary of the Simsbury Stamp Club. An avid shopper, she also loved to decorate especially her home. She was a seamstress and made her children's clothes and dolls that she would give away to children at the hospitals where she worked. Most of all she enjoyed spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren. Trene leaves her children daughter Laura Hunt and her husband Stephen of Avon, Philip Pockoski and his wife Ellen of Granby, daughter Sandra Lebowitz and his wife Ellen of Granby, daughter Sandra Lebowitz of Herndon, VA, and her son David Pockoski of Canton; her grandchildren Alexandra Pockoski, Jacob Lebowitz, Nicholas, Noah, and Eva Pockoski, Brett Pockoski, and Brendan Sansone; and a greatgrandchild Nolan Pockoski. Her family will receive friends Thursday, March 24, 2022, from 6-8 PM at the Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center, 301 Country Club Road, Avon. Family and friends may gather Friday, March 25, 2022, 10:15 AM at Carmon's followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 AM at the Church of Saint Ann. 289 Arch Burial at 11:00 AM at the Church of Saint Ann, 289 Arch Road, Avon. Burial will follow in Mount Saint Benedict Cemetery. Contributions may be made to St. Joseph University, 1678 Asylum Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06117. For directions or condolences please visit www. carmonfuneralhome.com.



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Poitras, Constance S. (Kessler)



Constance S. (Kessler) Poitras, 73, of New Britain, passed away sur-rounded by her family on Monday, March 21, 2022. She was the loving wife of Richard Poitras.

Born April 8, 1948 in Morgantown, W. Virginia, she was the daughter of the late Walter and Verlin (Mitchell) Kessler.

Connie worked at the Southington Care Center for 18 years. She loved to quilt, sew and cook for family

In addition to her husband she is survived by her five children, Elizabeth Musgrave and William Bergeron of Lebanon, Donald Musgrave and Shanna Jarvis of E. Hampton, Jonathan Musgrave and Jonas Couto of Hartford, Danielle Wrobleski and husband Jason of Ashland, MA and Matthew Musgrave and wife Shelly of New Britain; three grandchildren, Kristen Roberts and husband Cullen of Plainville, Katherine Musgrave of Enfield and Carter Musgrave of W. Hartford and her sister, Shirley Harvey of Texas. She also leaves her former husband Donald Musgrave, former daughter-inlaw, Brandy Little and many dear friends.

She was predeceased by a brother Wayne Kessler. A funeral service will be held on Friday, March 25th at 10 a.m. at the DellaVecchia Funeral Home, 211 N. Main St., Southington. Burial will follow at Rose Hills Memorial Park Cemetery, in Rocky Hill. Calling hours will be Thursday from 5-7 p.m. The family asks that masks be worn for all services. For online condolences and directions please visit, www.dellavecchiasouthing-

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Randino, Sebastian A.



Sebastian Anthony Randino, 89, of Middletown, beloved husband of Nancy (DelRosso) Randino for sixty-five years, passed away on Saturday, March 19th at Middlesex Hospital. Born in Middletown, he was the son of the late Sophio and Maria (Rio) Randino, both of Sicily, Italy. Sebastian, known to most as Randy, lived in Middletown his whole life, was a member

of Saint John's Church and a veteran of the Korean War serving in the United States Air Force. He worked for Pratt & Whitney Aircraft and retired from there in 1993 Randy was a member of the Elks and VFW and in his spare time enjoyed woodworking, fishing, and playing

Along with his wife, he is survived by his two sons, Keith Randino (wife Cheryl) of Tolland and Mark Randino (partner Michelle Berlinghoff) of Portland as well as two grandsons Kevin Randino (wife Brittany) of Ellington and Kyle Randino (wife Julie) and greatgrandson Daniel Randino of Vernon along with nieces and nephews; several other great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren through marriage.

Besides his parents, he was predeceased by his two sisters, Angela Tyrseck, Lucy Bombaci and his brother Vincent Randino.

The funeral will be private at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, friends may make donations in Sebastian's memory to the Alzheimer's Association

or the charity of their choice. The Coughlin-Lastrina Funeral Home, 491 High St., Middletown is in charge of arrangements.

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Robinson, Donald W.

Donald W. Robinson, 75, of Picacho, AZ, died March 15, 2022. He was born August 8, 1946 in New Picacho, son of the late Walter and Mary (Scripka) Robinson and had lived in Terryville for many years prior to moving to Arizona. Don was a veteran of the United States Marine Corps and the U.S. Airforce. Mr. Robinson was a Vehicle Mechanic for CT Air National Guard for many years prior to his retirement. Don enjoyed spending time gardening and working on home projects and most of all love fishing with his grandchildren.

He is survived by his son, Michael Robinson and partner Tracy Kennerson of Canton; his daughter, Michele A. Lasota of Windsor; his stepson, Joshua Martin and wife Kara of Naugatuck; stepdaughter, Faith Casy of Rockville; his brother, Robert Robinson and wife Linda of Kensington; nephew Cory Robinson and wife Jennifer of Tampa, FL; his grandchildren, Dakota Carey, Spencer Robinson, Mackenzie Robinson, Nathaniel Martin, Jacqueline Martin and Gage Tobin and his domestic partner, Maria Sgrott and her family Sandy and Seth Tobin. He was predeceased by his wife, Maureen Robinson.

Calling hours will be held on Thursday, March 24th from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM at the Vincent Funeral Home, 120 Albany Turnpike in Canton. Donations in Robby's memory may be made to the Department of Veterans' Affairs, 287 West Street, Rocky Hill, CT 06067. Please visit his Book of Memories at www.vincentfuneralhome. com for online tributes.

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Sullivan, Rosa J.(Reynolds)



Rosa Jane (Reynolds) Sullivan peacefully passed away Saturday, March 19, 2022 at the age of 92, in her home in Wethersfield, surrounded by her family. She was the widow of John L. "Jack" Sullivan, Jr. and the daughter of the late Rosa (Ahern) and Joseph T. Reynolds. Rosa grew up in West Hartford

and was a graduate of Hall High School and Bay Path Jr. College in Longmeadow, Massachusetts. She and Jack married on Valentine's Day in 1953 and then moved to Wethersfield. She worked at Aetna as an Administrative Assistant, leaving for 10 years to raise her family, returning to Aetna until her retirement in 1987 after 25 years of service. Upon retirement, Rosa and Jack moved to Cape Cod, residing in Eastham and having many happy years of retirement together there. In the winter they spent their time in Venice, Florida. After Jack's death, Rosa returned to

Wethersfield to be near her children. Rosa is survived by her three children: Patricia Lombardo and her husband Paul, John L. Sullivan III and his wife Cynthia and Karen Arseneault and her husband Scott. She also leaves behind four grandchildren: Brendan Sullivan, Christopher Sullivan and his wife Christine, Lindsay Sullivan and Matthew Cusano; as well as two twin great-grandsons, Jack and Luke Sullivan, whom she was proudly awaiting their arrival this month. She is also survived by her brother-in-law, Jerome Sullivan

and his wife Jane and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, Rosa was predeceased by her sister Ellen and brother-in-law James Flynn, and brothers-in-law, Thomas (Judy) Sullivan and James

Rosa was a true Irish beauty who loved life and always had a smile for everyone she met. The family would like to thank Biruta and Inga for their care, friendship and dedication to Rosa these past several years.

Friends and relatives may pay their respects to the Sullivan family on Wednesday, March 23rd from 9:15 10:15 a.m. at the D'Esopo Funeral Chapel, 277 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 a.m. in the Church of the Incarnation, 544 Prospect St., Wethersfield. Interment will follow the Mass in Fairview Cemetery (Section 4), 200 Whitman Ave., West Hartford. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations are requested to the Friends of the Cape Cod National Seashore, P.O. Box 550, Wellfleet, MA 02667 or online at FCCNS.org/donate. To share a memory of Rosa with her family, please visit www. desopofuneralchapel.com.



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OBITUARIES

Vickery, Lorraine M. (Chaperon)



Lorraine M. (Chaperon) Vickery, age 91, of Old Saybrook CT, formerly of South Windsor, CT, passed away on March 18, 2022, with her family by her side. The family would like to extend their appreciation to Gladeview Health Care and Rehabilitation for the excellent TLC Mom received from the staff. Lorraine was born

on Sept 24, 1930, in Winooski, Vermont to the late Fred and Mary (Fox) Chaperon of Pittsfield, Mass. She was predeceased by her husband, Rodger Vickery of Columbia, CT, by her sisters Shirley Coppolino of Pittsfield and Dori Chaperon of NYC, and her brother, Bradley Chaperon. Lorraine was a devoted mother to Debra Kramer and husband Rick of Greenville SC, Gary Vickery and wife Janine of Manchester CT, Gail Chmiel and husband Tim of Madison CT, and Joyce Somma and husband Stephen of Madison CT; her grandchildren Matthew Laskarzewski, Ryan Vickery, Krista Johnson husband Stephen of Madison CT; her grandchildren Matthew Laskarzewski, Ryan Vickery, Krista Johnson and husband Erik Johnson, and Heather Munafo and husband Mark of Newington CT; her great grandchildren, Elaina, Ben, Max, and Sam; her sister, Darlene Degnan of OK, several nieces and nephews, and her Godson, Jim Armstrong of Pittsfield, Mass. Whether it was working as a shift supervisor at Air Pax in Cheshire, CT, as well as safely crossing children as a school crossing guard at Rotella School in Waterbury, Lorraine always worked hard to provide for her family and to spoil her grandchildren. Lorraine was quiet, kind, generous and always optimistic regardless of what life dealt. She loved to walk, read, and listen to Big Band and Jazz music. Her favorite musicians were Frank Sinatra, Peggy Lee, and Harry Connick, Jr. An avid traveler as well, she enjoyed Cruises, European Travel, long summer trips to Cape Cod with her family and an occasional trip to put coins in the slot machines with her friends. She'll be long remembered fondly as a great baker and cook, curious traveler, snappy dresser, but most of all for being a loving mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. The loss of her everyday presence will be felt deeply by all who loved her. Funeral services are private at the request of her family. Samsel & Carmon Funeral Home in South Windsor has care of the arrangements. For online condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com arrangements. For online condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com

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Vigue, Joseph P.



Joseph P. Vigue, 67 of Burlington, passed away surrounded by his family on Sunday March 20, 2022. He was the husband of Sandra (Drawec) Vigue, with whom he shared 44 years of love, laughter and life adventures.

Born on October 28, 1954, Joseph was one of six chil-dren to the late Joseph and Rose (Serge) Vigue.

and educated in Burlington, he attended Lewis Mills High School, and at the age of 18 began his career at General Electric, from where he retired after 37 years of dedicated employment in 2008. A master carpenter and talented builder, Joe was the go-to guy for renovating and repairing literally anything. He proudly rebuilt his childhood home that his father built for the future generations of his family to enjoy, and has left his mark in the homes and in the hearts of so many. A lover of camping, he was a well-known and much loved legend at Strawberry Park where he spent most of his free time enjoying the many outdoor activities of camp life, including horseshoes, fishing, disc golf, card games, corn hole and fireside beers. Full of life and the life of the party, he was the first on the dance floor and the last one to leave and was known to "share" his love for music by playing it loud and often. Above all, Grampa Joe was a proud Papa, who shared a special bond with his grandchildren, relishing in every moment that he shared with them. He will be missed beyond words, leaving a legacy of love and many cherished memories In addition to his wife Sandy, he leaves his children, Michael and his wife Sophia of Harwinton and Holly Blanchette and her husband Ryan of Burlington; his two adored grandchildren Connor and Keira; his brothers Robert (Jill) Vigue and John (Jackie) Vigue; his sisters, Carol Svetz, Elaine Picard, and Deborah (Jim) Singleton; many nieces, nephews and extended family.

In lieu of flowers, Joe may be remembered with contributions to the Hospice of Bristol Hospital, 32 Valley St. Suite D, Bristol CT 06010; in appreciation for their kindness and compassion.

Family and friends may gather in celebration of Joe's life on Friday, March 25, 2022, from 5-7 p.m. at Plainville Funeral Home, 81 Broad St, Plainville. Words of remembrance will be shared at 7:00 p.m. For online expressions of sympathy, please visit Joe's tribute page at www.PlainvillleFuneralHome.com



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Woble, Thomas P.

Thomas P. Woble, 87, lifelong resident of Windsor and beloved husband of Shirley (Petraitis) Woble died peacefully on Friday, March 18, 2022, at Windsor Rehabilitation & Healthcare. Thomas was born in Hartford, CT on May 1, 1934, son to the late John and Margaret (Jeveroutsky) Woble. Tom served our country during the Korean War with the U.S. Marine Corps. A carpenter by trade, Tom worked for the Sasportis family early in his career, before going out on his own as Tom Woble Remodeling. He was an avid fisherman and enjoyed boating down the CT River to Long Island Sound. Along with his wife of over 64 years, Shirley of Windsor, he leaves his sons. TJ Woble of Rockville, Doug Woble, and his wife Heather of Colchester; his sister, Sharon Covini of FL; his brother, Richard Woble of NC; and his grandchildren, Joseph Woble, Patrick Woble, and Sean Woble all of Joseph Woble, Patrick Woble, and Sean Woble all of Colchester. He was predeceased by his son, David C. Woble; he was one of 12 children, and predeceased by 9 siblings, Ella, Helen, Barbara, John, Michael, Edward, Walter, James, and John Benjamin. In lieu of flowers, donations to Windsor Volunteer Ambulance, PO Box 508 Windsor, CT 06095, would be appreciated. His family will receive friends on Wednesday, March 23, 2022, from 10-11 a.m., at the Samsel & Carmon Funeral Home, 419 Buckland Rd., South Windsor. A funeral service will follow in the funeral home beginning at 11 a.m. Burial with Military Honors will follow at Wapping Cemetery in South Windsor. For online condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com

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In Loving Memory Of ROBERT C. 'BOB' LESTER, JR.



03/21/59 - 01/27/05



Happy Spring! Your 63rd birthday yesterday was a perfect day for a ride. We celebrate your life and laughter. We re-member you every day. Nisa, Mom and Dad, Cathy, Terry, Ann, John, Mark, a caring extended family, and lifelong

In Loving Memory Of ARMANDO MOLINARO



A year ago today God called you but you didn't go alone, part of us went with you. We miss you and love you always. Your loving family

In Loving Memory Of CHRISTOPHER S. SPEER, MD



06/23/1927-03/21/2005 Gone from our sight, but never our memories~ Gone from our touch, but never our hearts~ Remembering you with love~

Sal

In Loving Memory Of CHRISTOPHER ZAPOR



03/21/1982-10/25/2015 Happy Birthday Chris Today we celebrate your life. We love you, miss you and think of you every day. Love Mom, Dad and Stephanie



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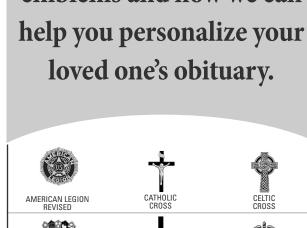
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Strengthening support for domestic violence victims

By Eliza Fawcett Hartford Courant

With a spotlight on the enduring issue of domestic and family violence in Connecticut, advocates and lawmakers Monday considered bills that would enhance support for victims of violence and crack down on harmful interactions with children during a public hearing of the Judiciary Committee.

One measure, Senate Bill No. 5, would appropriate \$1.44 million in the 2023 fiscal year to fund 18 domestic violence child and family

advocates at agencies statewide, as well as combat online abuse by requiring dating apps to verify the identity of each user, criminalize "child grooming," and enhance workplace protections for victims of domestic violence.

Testifying in support of the bill, Senate President Pro Tempore Sen. Martin Looney, D-New Haven, said that children and adults fleeing family violence face limited options as they seek help.

"Too often, the adult victims of domestic violence are forced to miss work to address the physical and mental health demands,

divorce implications, temporary homelessness, financial fallout and these already suffering people should not lose their jobs as a second injustice," Looney said, noting the bill's intent to impel employees to provide accommodations for the victims of domestic violence.

An investigative series published last year by Hearst Connecticut Media Group drew attention to the nearly 300 people who have died of intimate partner violence in Connecticut over the past two decades and noted gaps in the state's system of addressing domestic violence, including "stagnant funding" for organizations that support victims of domestic violence.

Liza Andrews, the director of public policy and communica-tions for the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence, a membership organization of the state's 18 domestic violence service organizations, praised the increased funding that Senate Bill No. 5 would provide. Andrews noted that the organizations assist more than 4,000 children annually, but that current funding levels mean that "our advocates simply

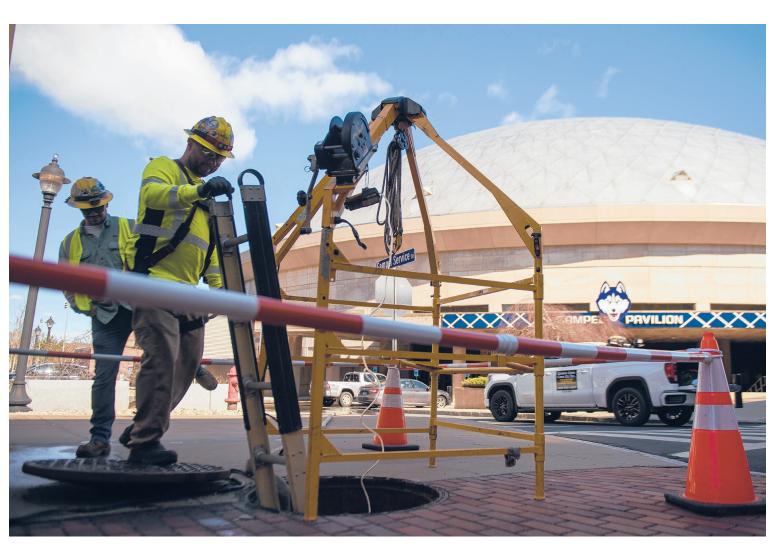
do not have enough time to address the complex needs of these kids."

Testimony on the bill was not

unanimously positive, however. Amber Vlangas, the executive director of the Restorative Action Alliance, emphasized that while her organization supports "the spirit" of the legislative proposal, it was opposed to a provision that

would criminalize child grooming. "We don't feel that expanding the criminal code is a good strategy and this is what gave rise to mass incarceration, and we favor

Turn to Support, Page 2



A utility crew works to restore power outside Gampel Pavilion on Monday morning after UConn announced a "significant power outage." The outage canceled classes for the day, but Monday night's NCAA women's basketball game against Central Florida was not expected to be affected, according to university spokeswoman Stephanie Reitz. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

Electrical short sparked outage, forcing UConn to cancel classes

NCAA Tournament game not affected

By Christine Dempsey Hartford Courant

Classes at UConn's main campus were canceled Monday because of an electrical short in an underground high-voltage power line, which triggered what the university called "a significant power outage."

The cancellation only affected the Storrs campus; classes at the regional campuses proceeded as planned. Nonessential employees in Storrs were told to finish their workdays remotely, university spokeswoman Stephanie Reitz

Gampel Pavilion never lost

power, and Monday night's NCAA women's basketball game was not affected, Reitz said.

This is a pretty major circuit, it feeds much of campus. Luckily, it doesn't feed Gampel," she said. "There was a short in the line and that caused the circuit to fail."

If Gampel was on the circuit, crews would switch it to a different one, as they did with the many buildings that lost power.

The repair work is more complex than it is in most outages, Reitz said. "Because they're high-voltage lines, the workers have to work carefully and

methodically," she said. Academic buildings, residence halls, and offices that lacked electricity were transitioned throughout the day from the affected electrical circuit to a different one, Reitz said. All buildings had been switched over and had power by 4 p.m., Reitz said.

"Repairs are continuing to the damaged electrical infrastructure that interrupted service on that circuit, but the work is taking place largely underground and won't affect traffic or other UConn operations," she said Monday afternoon.

At first, officials thought the work would be finished sooner: They initially announced that only morning classes would be

Much of the repair work Monday morning was going right outside Gampel Pavilion, where the second-round game against the UCF Knights was scheduled to start at 9 p.m.

UConn generates its own power. Billed as a "state-of-the-art" facility, a co-generation plant began operating 16 years ago on March 15, 2006, according to the school's website. Co-generation means it produces both electrical and thermal energy from a single source.

"This allows over 80% of the fuel energy to be harnessed, versus 33% from a conventional electric power plant," the website says. It also produces "fewer emissions than comparable commercial grid generation."

"Husky Power actively contributes to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and has reduced 30,000 metric tons CO2 equivalent each year of operation since 2007," it

It's also cheaper, officials said in a YouTube video about the history of the plant.

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Bloomfield center may get 150 more apartments

By Don Stacom Hartford Courant

The developer of Heirloom Flats is preparing to build 150 additional apartments along Jerome Avenue in the center of Bloomfield.

Paul Butler, head of 25 Jerome Avenue LLC, plans to construct the second phase of the massive residential development directly across Jerome Avenue from the first one.

Butler's company first won approval in 2014 for a series of apartment buildings with about 400 total units near town hall.

Butler and some town officials at the time described the overall project as being transformative. Built in phases, it would gradually bring hundreds of new residents into the town center, beefing up demand for restaurants and local retailers.

Even though many details have changed over the years, the company and town officials still see Heirloom Flats as strengthening the center.

"The housing boom is exciting because the growth is great for Bloomfield," Mayor Danielle Wong said Monday. "It's important for us to grow our tax base responsibly and as part of a broad vision of building Bloomfield."

The company has already received its chief zoning approval for the 150-unit project, but is asking the planning and zoning commission for a site plan approval as well as a special permit to build a retaining wall. The request goes to a hearing

Thursday evening. Butler's company opened the first phase of Heirloom Flats in 2017 with 215 apartments along the west side of Jerome Avenue just below Park Avenue. The buildings are four and five stories high, and replaced about a dozen older single-family houses that were vacant.

Butler now wants to construct the second stage on the east side of Jerome in the same area. 25 Jerome Avenue LLC intends to demolish five small, old houses and build on the acreage.

The first phase of Heirloom Flats includes a heated outdoor

Turn to Bloomfield, Page 2

Checks are being stolen from mail collection boxes

By Jesse Leavenworth Hartford Courant

Thieves using line attached to rodent glue traps have snagged checks from U.S. mail collection boxes in several Connecticut towns, a lucrative catch used to drain victims' bank accounts.

Avon police posted signs at drop boxes earlier this month warning people to avoid mailing cash and checks and to mail items inside the post office rather than using outdoor boxes.

"Mailbox fishing" has been reported throughout the nation. Crews using rodent traps and other sticky devices attached to lines haul in envelopes, then pluck the checks and discard the rest. Using ink-removing chemicals, they "wash"

Turn to Crooks, Page 2



Avon police placed these signs around town to alert the public about mail theft. Crews have been stealing checks from mail drop boxes in Avon and

Police: 62-year-old woman dies days after shooting in Hartford

By Taylor Hartz Hartford Courant

A Hartford woman who was found shot inside her home last week has died from her injuries, according to police.

Cynthia Reynolds, 62, died at Hartford Hospital on Monday afternoon, five days after she suffered a single gunshot wound, according to the Hartford Police

Department. Police responded about 1:05 p.m. Wednesday to reports of a person shot at 115 Irving Street, a red three-family home owned by

Reynolds since 2018, according to city property records. When officers arrived at the home, Reynolds was alert and

conscious, police said. Her inju-

ries were not believed to be life-threatening and she was taken by ambulance to Hartford Hospital where her condition was stabilized, according to Lt. Aaron Boisvert with the Hart-

She was pronounced dead at the hospital at 1:42 p.m. Monday, Boisvert said.

A medical examiner had not vet ruled on the cause or manner of her death, according to the Connecticut Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

Police said they do not believe Reynolds was the intended target of the shooting and their investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Hartford Police Department tip line at 860-722-8477.



John Adkins, of Get Green Remodeling, installs a blower door to measure air leaks during a home energy audit. Gov. Ned Lamont is sponsoring a bill that would require all rental properties to come with an energy label. **EDUARDO CONTRERAS/FILE**

How much will it cost to heat this apartment?

Proposed bill would require rental properties to include an energy label

By Daniela Altimari Hartford Courant

Refrigerators and washing machines are sold with bright yellow stickers that detail how much energy the appliance uses. Cars come with mileage esti-

But prospective renters have no idea how much they will spend to heat and cool their homes.

Advocates, including Gov. Ned Lamont, are pushing for legislation to change that, supporting a bill that would require residential rental properties to carry a label that provides a snapshot of the

unit's energy efficiency.
"This bill puts more control over energy use into the hands of consumers," Katie S. Dykes, commissioner of the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, said in written testimony to the legislature's housing committee.

"It requires property owners to provide information about a home's energy consumption to potential renters through a home energy label," she said.

Such labels, Dykes said, "act

like a 'miles-per-gallon' rating for a home, giving renters the power to choose to live in a more efficient

Rental property owners who fail to comply could be fined \$500, a provision that prompted an association representing Connecticut landlords to call the proposal "a new burden."

Several other states, including Alaska, Hawaii, Kansas, Maine, New York and South Dakota, have passed similar laws. Chicago has required energy labels detailing the unit's yearly energy consumption since 1987.

The Connecticut measure, House Bill 5041, was endorsed by the Housing Committee last week. The House of Representatives and the Senate have yet to consider the

It won the support of a wide range of environmental and housing advocates, who say it could help drive down Connecticut's highest-in-the-nation energy costs and provide transparency for consumers.

Emily Basham said it cost her \$1,700 to heat her New Haven apartment last year.

"Requiring energy labeling in rental units through HB 5041 would prevent families from being blindsided by unaffordable energy costs,"

Charles J. Rothenberger, a climate and energy attorney with Save the Sound, said it would encourage landlords to invest in making their properties more energy efficient in order to stay competitive in the rental market.

"Connecticut has a significant amount of older housing stock that falls well below modern standards for energy efficiency, resulting in homes that are more expensive than necessary to heat in the winter and cool in the summer," Rothenberger told lawmakers in written testimony. Improving a home's energy efficiency can often be done for relatively little cost "and that these improvements more than pay for themselves in terms of energy

The Connecticut Coalition of Property Owners opposes the legis-

"Prospective tenants will get an accurate idea of the expense at an apartment or home before they move in," said John Souza, the group's president. "Also, neighbors can see how their usage compares to the neighborhood etc. I'm not sure how an energy label with 1 to 5 stars would translate into the actual expense/costs for the person looking to buy or rent."

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East Hartford cops ID victim in fatal shooting

By Jesse Leavenworth Hartford Courant

East Hartford police on Monday identified a fatal shooting victim as a Hartford man.

Officers responding to a shotsfired called early on March 12 found Michael Manson, 36, unresponsive inside a vehicle on Chapel Street near Main Street,

Officers performed cardiopulmonary resuscitation on Manson,

who died later at an area hospital. A second victim at the scene, Lasondra Gainey, 31, of Bristol, was treated for a gunshot wound to her arm, police said.

Anyone with Information is asked to call Det. Patrick Sullivan at 860-291-7611, or the department's anonymous tip line at 860-289-9134.

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Woman, 37, found dead outside Meriden condominium complex

Police say they have a suspect in mind

By Christine Dempsey Hartford Courant

A woman was found dead in a Meriden apartment complex driveway Sunday night after residents reported hearing gunfire, police said.

Investigators are calling the woman's death a homicide. They said they have a suspect.

"We have a suspect and it's a very active case at this moment," Lt Darrin McKay said at 9:15 a.m. "I can say nothing else at

Officers responded to numerous calls about possi-

ble shots being fired outside Atrium Condominium Association Inc., 1274 East Main St., shortly before 9:30 p.m. They found a woman lying in the driveway at the complex entrance, police said. The woman, who was determined to be 37 years old, was pronounced

A preliminary investigation confirmed that shots were fired in the area, but police did not say whether the woman had been

Police said it is too early to know the circumstances of her

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SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

A story on **Page 1** on Sunday incorrectly reported that nearly half of Connecticut's population paid about 26% of their incomes in income taxes. The share of income they pay is in all taxes, including property, sales and other taxes.

Bloomfield

from Page 1

pool, grilling areas under a large gazebo, landscaped courtyard, exercise room, yoga room, and

Developers in 2014 cited Bloomfield's restaurants and shopping as part of what would draw young tenants, primarily young singles and empty-nest-

Heirloom Flats' proponents say that having hundreds of new residents in the center of town will help restaurants and retailers. Skeptics have argued that the size of the buildings is out of scale, and is visually disruptive to a small, traditional New England village center.

Wong and others advocate multifamily housing as a way to bring more vitality to the sidewalks. Some are hoping it will help revive the nearby Wintonbury Mall.

"We cannot leave behind our seniors, young professionals and young families," Wong said Monday. "As a mayor who supports smart growth, I envision a vibrant town center where residents can live, spend their disposable income and help grow our local economy. This means we must redevelop key retail spaces, continue fighting blight

Support

from Page 1

a public health approach," Vlangas said.

Another bill under consideration, House Bill No. 5468, would criminalize harmful communication with a minor, including by sharing sexual images of the minor or by forming or maintaining an "inappropriate relationship" with

State Rep. Mary Welander, D-Orange, testified in favor of the bill, noting that online exploitation and abuse of children has become "more prevalent and subversive."

"It is no longer just the stereotype of the stranger in the van that we have to worry about - it is the stranger across the state or the country who sends your child

a message when they are sitting right next to you," Welander said.

Discussion of another measure, House Bill No. 5467, centered on concerns raised by a number of advocates about a provision of the bill that would give "equal access" to written reports of violence provided by a family violence intervention unit.

Katherine Verano, the chief executive officer of Safe Futures, a New London-based organization serving victims of domestic violence, raised questions about the bill's stipulation that a local family violence intervention unit "provide a copy of any written report that has been prepared for presentation to the court at any stage of a criminal proceeding, to the prosecuting authority, the defendant and the defendant's

Under the proposal, material shared between the advocate, victim and family relations counselor could be disclosed, Verano said, emphasizing that she was concerned about maintaining privileged communication between a victim and advocate.

Disclosing victim information to the defendant and the defendant's counsel would substantially increase a victim's risk of further violence immediately following an arraignment," she warned.

State Sen. Mae Flexer, D-Killingly, vice chair of the committee, emphasized that it was "important for members of the committee to understand the chilling effect" that the proposal could have on victims.

Karen Foley O'Connor, the executive director and CEO of The Network Against Domestic Abuse in Enfield and a former state trooper, emphasized that making a victim's statements available to a defendant could be dangerous or even fatal.

"It's really about not arming the defendant with more information to get them more angry and possibly retaliate the moment that we're released." O'Connor said.

State Sen. John Kissel, R-Enfield, noted that "People will be very hesitant to be completely... revealing in this process if they feel that any of this information could end up endangering them down the road."

Jenn Lawlor, co-founder of Violent Crime Survivors, testified in favor of another measure. House Bill No. 5470, which would ensure that the victim of a crime has participatory rights in any hearing concerning a violation of probation or conditional discharge involving the defendant. Lawlor said that she supported "any and all opportunities" to better incorporate victims and their families in the legal

"I can speak with certainty that the very few rights victims and co-victims are given caused tremendous emotional and psychological duress," said Lawlor, whose 25-year-old daughter Emily Todd was killed in Bridgeport in 2018 (Her ex-boyfriend is charged with murder and is awaiting trial). "The gap between the rights of the accused and the rights of the victims and their families create immediate as well as both lasting and permanent effects, making healing from the crimes committed against them indescribably harder."

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Crooks

from Page 1

the checks, altering names and

amounts, authorities say. West Hartford Capt. Eric Rocheleau said police have received several complaints from residents who reported stolen and altered checks. Detectives were investigating one case in which thieves used custom-made tools to remove mail from a postal drop box, Rocheleau

A longtime Farmington Valley resident who wished to remain anonymous said Monday that his elderly parents' bank account was nearly wiped out recently after thieves stole two checks from a drive-up collection box off Route 44 in Avon. The crooks altered the amount on one check from \$110 to \$8,000 and cashed it, the man said.

The criminals then Photoshopped the checks and created blank checks with the same account number and victim's name "so it essentially looked exactly like a blank check that you would have in your checkbook," the man said.

"Then they started writing checks, and they forged my signature that was based on the signature of the two checks that they stole," he said.

The man said he learned Monday that the money was insured and will be replaced.

The U.S. Postal Inspection Service is investigating the thefts, agency spokeswoman Emily Spera said.

"Every day, the U.S. Postal Service safely and efficiently delivers millions of checks, money orders, credit cards, and merchandise," Spera said. "Unfortunately, such items are also attractive to thieves. That's why Postal Inspectors across the country are at work to protect our customers' mail."

Avon police are working with federal authorities investigating a steady stream of such thefts, which started last summer, police spokesman Lt. John Schmalberger said. Postal officials have retrofitted the larger drop box outside the main post office to prevent fishing, but the smaller box, which reads "Express," has not been changed,

Schmalberger said. Schmalberger said the check-stealing crews drive along major thoroughfares like Route 44 and do their work quickly. On March 15, police in Scarsdale, New York, found stolen mail and sticky rat traps inside a crashed and abandoned car, according to the Scars-

dale Inquirer newspaper. In Philadelphia, check thieves have used keys to open collection boxes and haul away the entire contents, the Philadelphia Inquirer newspaper reported. Criminals steal the keys from mail carriers or pay the carriers thousands of dollars for the so-called "arrow keys." A 2020 report by the U.S. Postal Service Inspector General found lax oversight of the

"The Postal Service's management controls over arrow keys were ineffective," the report said. 'Specifically, the number of arrow keys in circulation is unknown, and local units did not adequately report lost, stolen, or broken keys or maintain key inventories. Further, the Postal Service did not restrict the number of replacement arrow keys that could be ordered. Ineffective controls over arrow keys increases the risk that these items will be lost or stolen and not detected."

Spera offered tips to prevent mail

theft: ■ Hand outgoing mail to your letter

carrier, or mail it inside at the post office or at a secure receptacle at your place of business.

■ Never send cash or coins in the mail. Use checks or money orders. Ask your bank for "secure" checks that are more difficult to alter.

■ If you see any suspicious substance, such as glue or other sticky product on a mailbox or mail receptacle, notify postal inspectors. Submit complaints at uspis.gov, or by calling 877-876-2455. By analyzing information from the complaint, inspectors can determine if the incident is part of a larger mail theft problem in the neighborhood and customers' input may help inspectors catch the thieves.

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CONNECTICUT



Darilyn Castillo and a faceless crew member (as seen in an early version of the show) in Eliana Pipes'"Dream Hou\$e" at the Long Wharf Theatre through April 3. LONG WHARF THEATRE

REVIEW

'Dream Hou\$e' a harrowing look at owning and leaving a home

By Christopher Arnott Hartford Courant

Eliana Pipes' unpredictable new play "Dream Hou\$e" lives up to both the words in its title, as well as that presumptuous dollar sign.

The darkly comic drama, written for three actors and a fake TV crew, is at the Long Wharf Theatre through April 3.

"Dream Hou\$e" can be accurately described several different ways: "Two sisters have mixed emotions about selling their family home." "Reality TV intrudes on personal conflicts." "A life-changing opportunity is compromised by the cultural and emotional baggage it brings up." But none of these can prepare you for this purposefully uncentered, unsettled social satire, which explores the meaning of everything from genealogy to gentrification, from virtue to video.

This is not some traditional sentimental claptrap about a family saying goodbye to the old homestead. It's an excitingly odd meditation on family, memory, loss and the promise of wealth.

It's fascinating what Pipes does with the money aspect. Julia and Patricia, sisters who haven't seen each other in a while, reconnect so they can sell the house they grew up in (and where Patricia had until recently been caring for their late mother). It's a distinctive and still impressive building that has been in the family for many generations. They entrust the sale to a reality program called "Flip It and List It" which is likely to goose the asking price and ignite a bidding war just by showing it on TV. The host of the show is an impossibly effervescent woman in a bright pink pantsuit named Tessa, who dominates the home sale process in a manner that seems both demanding and demonic.

So dollar signs are in the sisters' eyes but the theme here is not greed but value. How do we monetize memories, or hopes and dreams? This isn't a play about accumulating things. It's about

appreciating them, which is a much better subject.

Just as you may start to pick apart details in "Dream Hou\$e" like how could the sisters know so little about a TV show at least one of them watches faithfully, or how could they be so unprepared for so many obvious and commonsense parts of the house-selling process, or how can one character claim to hand another \$50 when they have only two bills in their hand? details don't matter anymore because we enter a bizarre netherworld of scary threats from the bubbly Tessa, hallucinatory visions for Patricia and Julia, and some very smart stage effects that render disturbing real-life house

Laurie Woolery, who has helmed the premieres of several new plays at another New Haven theater, the Yale Rep, in New Haven, has a knack for packing action and needed distraction into scenes that might otherwise be tiringly verbose. Woolery uses grand strokes like bursts of light (or darkness) and eye-popping transformations to drive home the mad fluctuations of Pipes' script. The playwright, for her part, knows how to jump from quiet dialogues to raucous confrontations, or from reality to surreality, in a way that seems fluid and

The production premiered at the Alliance Theatre in Georgia and will soon move on to Baltimore Center Stage in Maryland. Darilyn Castillo and Marianna McClennan originated their respective roles of the younger. pregnant sister Julia and the hyper TV host Tessa respectively. Renata Eastlick as Patricia is new to the cast, and the four-piece ensemble playing Tessa's silent yet physically energetic camera crew were cast locally. The crew, clad in black with masked faces, provide both comic relief and a sense of menace. Castillo and Eastlick are credibly squabbling siblings who can each handle the show's tricky leaps into the unknown.

McClellan takes what could be a one-dimensional TV personality caricature and gives it the akilter creepiness it deserves.

"Dream Hou\$e" keeps you guessing, not just about the easy plot points of how much the house might sell for or where the sisters might move to, but about how far gone they might get and whether they'll even survive this emotional ordeal. Sartre or Ionesco could have concocted some of these scenes, and it's wonderful to see Absurdism alive and well on modern stages. This is the kind of play to see because you can't imagine it without seeing it, and because it really does lay out the most difficult and confounding problems of letting go of cherished belongings and memories.

Speaking of which, the countdown to the end of the Long Wharf at Long Wharf has begun. The theater company announced last month that at the end of this season it will be vacating the 222 Sargent Drive space it has occupied for its entire nearly 60-year existence. After "Dream Hou\$e' there is just Aneesha Kudtarkar's "Queen" in May/June before the Long Wharf begins a new and still largely undefined phase of transient "community-driven" productions. The alarmingly sparse audience on Friday night (around 75 people in an auditorium meant to hold five times that amount) suggests that folks aren't exactly rushing out to bid farewell to the old stage. Go see "Dream Hou\$e" and use the opportunity to say goodbye to a landmark.

directed by Laurie Woolery, runs today through April 3 at the Long Wharf Theatre, 222 Sargent Drive, New Haven. Performances are Tuesday at 7 p.m., Wednesday at 2 and 7 p.m., Thursday and Friday at 7 p.m. Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$59. longwharf.org.

at carnott@courant.com.

City paid now-indicted contractor \$85,400 to pick up leaf bags

By Andrew Brown CT Mirror

A man charged with stealing more than \$431,000 from the city of West Haven through fraudulent invoices also received more than \$85,000 for picking up leaf bags for the city last August and September.

John Trasacco, a Branford resident, was paid \$85,400 for "leaf/ debris removal and dumping' from Aug. 3 through mid-September through a company called KAT Environmental Services, newly released financial documents show.

The payments issued to KAT Environmental were not mentioned in the federal indictment against Trasacco, which was unsealed on Feb. 18.

But the transactions were authorized in the same manner as the money that went to the two other businesses Trasacco founded and controlled, The L&H Company and JIL Sanitation:

KAT Environmental was formed in July of last year, just before it contracted with West Haven's public works department, and the pair of invoices the company submitted were approved by Michael DiMassa, who previously served as a state Democratic lawmaker and an assistant to the West Haven City

DiMassa is at the center of an ongoing criminal investigation, which has revealed serious financial and oversight problems within the city. DiMassa was arrested in October and charged with fraud.

Several city officials said thev had never heard of KAT Environmental, and Mayor Nancy Rossi said the contracts the company received were never put out to bid to allow other businesses to compete for the work.

Meanwhile, members of the state board overseeing West Haven's finances are now questioning whether the state needs to take a more aggressive approach to managing the municipality's

Federal prosecutors accused DiMassa last month of conspiring with several people, including Trasacco, to submit fraudulent invoices to West Haven's finance department in order to cash in on federal pandemic relief funds and other taxpayer money.

Trasacco and DiMassa did not respond to phone calls and emails for this story. Neither did their defense attorneys.

Tom McCarthy, West Haven's public works director, did not respond to several questions from the Connecticut Mirror. But Rossi said she spoke to McCarthy about KAT Environmental and its business with the city last year.

The city's staff, Rossi said, did not solicit offers from other companies before paying KAT Environmental, even though West Haven's laws require a public bidding process for any contract over \$10,000.

The public works department, Rossi added, only used KAT Environmental to pick up the yard waste "for a short amount of time." And she said the city ended that business relationship.

The invoices submitted by the company didn't specify how many homes it was to pick up yard waste from or in which parts of the city it was working. Instead, the company billed West Haven a flat rate of \$2,000 per day.

Rossi said those services were needed in the city in last summer mostly to allow people to dispose of their grass clippings.

But two of West Haven's City Council members said they were unfamiliar with KAT Environmental and the work it was paid to perform for the city.

Peter Massaro, the new Democratic chairman of the City Council, said he was not aware of Trasacco or any of his companies prior to his arrest last month.

"That's all I can comment about this," Massaro said. "It is still under investigation. I never heard about this company."

Bridgette Hoskie, the chairwoman of West Haven's finance committee, confirmed that the city pays outside companies to pick up yard waste throughout the city, but she didn't know the specifics of those contracts or which companies perform that work.

"I know that we do contract out leaf bag pickups, but whether or not the services were provided, that doesn't come before the city council," she said.

'Fictitious vendors'

Members of the state Municipal Accountability Review Board, which has overseen West Haven's finances, have struggled to get a handle on the city's purchasing system for more than four years.

MARB members repeatedly warned West Haven's leaders during monthly meetings that the city didn't have the necessary controls in place to catch fraudulent invoices or unscrupulous contractors who might be seeking to take advantage.

Annual audits of West Haven's finances also highlighted the risk that presented to the city and its

"At present, the city allows purchases without first approving vendors," West Haven's auditors wrote in December 2020. "This increases the risk of fictitious vendors as well as not being able to obtain the best price or quality. In addition, unintentional conflict of interest issues may arise."

All of those problems burst into public view last fall when DiMassa and another city employee, John Bernardo, were arrested by the FBI for allegedly funneling more than \$463,000 in federal relief money to a shell company they set up.

The fallout from the federal criminal investigation has continued to grow since then. Last month, Trasacco and DiMassa's wife, Lauren Knox, were added to the list of defendants who are accused of cheating West Haven out of hundreds of thousands of

Meanwhile, MARB members have stepped up the pressure on West Haven's elected leaders to force them to adopt better purchasing rules and to fix the city's finance department, which continues to be understaffed.

Several members of the review board have noted that it is not just local tax dollars that are at risk from West Haven's continued mismanagement.

The state, they pointed out, has given West Haven more than \$16 million in restructuring funds since 2018 to stabilize the city's finances and to help the city's staff make the necessary changes to its financial systems.

That state assistance could soon come to an end. however, if West Haven doesn't make significant improvements.

Increasing state oversight?

State officials warned West Haven last fall that it would not receive any additional money from MARB until the city could prove that it had fixed its purchasing policies and its other financial controls.

Stephen Falcigno, one of the 10 current members of MARB, told his colleagues this month that he believed the state needed to play a more direct role in managing the day-to-day operations of West Haven by installing more state employees in West Haven's city

Only then, he argued, could MARB properly protect state taxpayers, who continue to provide money to help West Haven and its residents.

Several other members of MARB agreed that West Haven was clearly not moving fast enough to fix its finances and basic accounting policies.

Christine Shaw, who represents the Connecticut Treasurer's Office in MARB meetings, noted that West Haven's leaders continue to claim that they are working on the same issues "month after month."

For now, members of MARB are in a holding pattern. They are waiting on a forensic audit that is examining how West Haven used the more than \$1.1 million in federal CARES Act funding it received last year.

That audit is expected to be finished by the end of this month.

Andrew Brown is a reporter for The Connecticut Mirror (https:// ctmirror.org/). Copyright 2022 © The Connecticut Mirror.

"At present, the city allows purchases without first approving vendors. This increases the risk of fictitious vendors as well as not being able to obtain the best price or quality. In addition, unintentional conflict of interest issues may arise."

problems as cartoonishly weird.

"Dream Hou\$e" by Eliana Pipes,

Christopher Arnott can be reached

Alex Segura to talk about his latest novel, 'Secret Identity,' in Twain House event

By Christopher Arnott Hartford Courant

Noted author Alex Segura has taken a murder mystery and added elements of film noir, graphic novels and the women's liberation movement for his newest book, "Secret Identity," a crime novel set in the comic world of the 1970s.

"My favorite kind of crime stories take you somewhere else — a different time, another world," Segura told the Courant earlier this month. The comics industry is prime for that."

Segura, the writer of the Miamibased Pete Fernandez mystery series, some landmark Archie Comics titles, the graphic novel "The Black Ghost: Hard Revolution" and a "Star Wars" novel. discusses "Secret Identity" (Flatiron Books, 2022) in a virtual program hosted by the Mark Twain House & Museum on March 29 at 6 p.m. The talk is free; registration is required.

He'll be in conversation with Silvia Moreno-Garcia, another novelist who has used comics, noir and the 1970s as inspirations for her work — in her case, for the horror/ fantasy novel "Velvet Was the Night."

When the Twain House reached out to Segura for the virtual event, he suggested involving Moreno-Garcia. Besides bringing similar styles and subject matter into their books, the authors share Florida upbringings

and both live in New York City. Segura chose to make the protag-

onist of "Secret Identity" a woman, an aspiring writer and under-appreciated editorial assistant named Carmen Valdez, and set the mystery in a time when very few women were involved in the comic-book industry. Carmen's problems involve much more than the mysterious murder of a colleague. Her encounters with sexist and domineering male editors and writers frames the dark spirit of the book, which is lifted somewhat when she creates an empowered female superhero.

"It was important to have Carmen be front and center," Segura says. "I talked to a lot of women who were in comics at the time. It was very different then than it is now. Comics was this tiny isolated industry, very insular. Nobody was respected for doing comics; it was a means to an end until you could do something else. The women who left it then never made it back into it later. That really resonated with me and led to how I ended this book."

Segura has previously proven how adept he is at blending different pop culture genres or icons. He's also the author of the instant classic 'The Archies Meet the Ramones," in which the fictitious band of Riverdale high schoolers and the punk progenitors from Queens bond over a shared love of bubblegum pop. He also had The Archies meet The Monkees, Kiss, The B-52s and others as well as taking part in the Occupy

"Secret Identity" not only takes place in the comics industry, the story illustrates Carmen's struggles with nearly 20 pages of "The Legendary Lynx," the superhero comic she ghostwrites in the book. Her role in the development of the character, and how credit is denied her, fuels much of the mystery in "Secret Identity." The comics pages are drawn by Sandy Jarrell and lettered by Taylor Esposito.

"I knew I wanted comic book sequences" Segura says. "I wanted it to feel like part of the story. So I found a character I created years before. Then I had to craft a story for her, and supporting characters, and make it seem as if it was a continuing series."

To that end, he found he basically had to work out two endings for the

people always wanted to know what happened to the Lynx." He hasn't counted out continuing either Carmen's story or The Lynx's:

"The plot resolved itself, but

"There's room to tell more stories." For now, he's written a full, multi-media mystery/historical novel/comic book he calls "a love letter to comics and noir."

For more information, and to register for the Mark Twain House and Museum's live discussion with Alex Segura, go to marktwainhouse.org.

 $Christopher\,Arnott\,can\,be\,reached$ at carnott@courant.com.

West Haven's auditors in December 2020.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

Legal Notice

Notice is hereby given that the audited Financial Statements for the Cromwell Fire District for the year ended June 30, 2021, as prepared by the firm Hoyt, Filippetti & Malaghan LLC, certified pub-lic accountants, of Groton, Connecticut, is available at the Town Clerk's Office, 41 West Street, Cromwell, Connecticut, for

JoAnn Doyle Cromwell Town Clerk Dated at Cromwell, Connecticut, this 17th day of March, 2022 3/22/2022 7172823

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated:

Extra Space Storage

2 Douglas St

Bloomfield, CT 06002

Wednesday, April 6th 2022 1pm

1094-Jamila Douglas-Household Items

1232-John Bouchard-Furniture 1355-Timothy Kelly-Clothing/Household

The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced faciland paid at the above reterenced racinity in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property. the personal property. 3/22 & 3/29/22 7170514

ESTATE OF Paula K. Feder. Late of Centerbrook, AKA Paula Kurzband Feder

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated March 1, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Jacqueline Craco, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is: Sarah Feder Weaver, 45 Cooper Drive, Glastonbury, CT 06443-2102 3/22/2022 7172509

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CT 06109
860-916-0534
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744 Phillip Johnson II House goods
499 Naomi Ngoma House goods
84 Sonsharee Kennedy House goods
155 jerry grate House goods
396 William Dlugoleski House goods
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com.
Purchases must be made with cash only
and paid at the above referenced facil-

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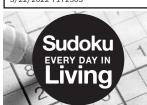
2022-076 Parks Program Transportation; bids due April 6, 2022 at 1:00 pm 2022-077 Link-driven mechanically cleaned bar screen assemblies for use in wastewater treatment operations; bids due April 6, 2022 at 1:30 pm

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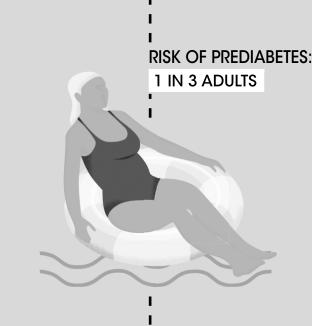
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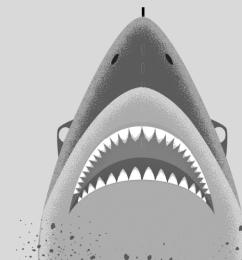


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TV REVIEW

Feminist magazine mixes in male nudity in 'Minx'

By Nina Metz Chicago Tribune

Looking to get a feminist magazine off the ground, a young woman pitches her idea to a cavalcade of uninterested men. Only one gives her the time of day, and he happens to be a purveyor of porn in the San Fernando Valley. Why not serve up some male nudity along with those serious-minded articles, he suggests? A spoonful of sugar and all that. She hates the idea. *Hates it*. But having no other options, she agrees. That's the premise of "Minx" on HBO Max, a snappy workplace dramedy drenched in the sunny glare of early 1970s Southern California.

Beefcakes alongside meaty ideas may sound like an unlikely pairing, but that's true of the show's central duo as well. Joyce (Ophelia Lovibond) is earnest, uptight and inexperienced, but she's also clear about the value of a magazine that takes women's agency as its raison d'être. Doug (Jake Johnson) is the confident, louche, easygoing publisher who wears his shirts generously unbuttoned and understands the kind of hustle that keeps his scrappy company afloat, with magazines such as Feet Feet Feet and Bodacious Butts.

She's the iron nightingale, he's the swashbuckling sleaze: Can they make magazine magic together? To start, Joyce's proposed title, The Matriarchy Awakens, is tossed overboard for the far catchier Minx. But actually getting the magazine going is a complicated stop-start process that kicks up all kinds of dust along the way — a good amount from



Jake Johnson as Doug and Ophelia Lovibond as Joyce in the workplace dramedy "Minx." KATRINA MARCINOWSKI/HBO MAX

Joyce herself, who sees this venture as an X-rated Faustian bargain. Only gradually does she come around to the idea that in order to lead the liberated charge, the pages of her magazine will also need to be a spectacle of schlongs. A plethora of peni. A delirium of ... you get the idea.

I like all the business practicalities in play. Minx intends to offer readers "female emancipation with mature but thematically appropriate material," Joyce says, sticking to euphemisms in their pitch to advertisers, whereas her partner is more blunt, with an eye on the bottom line: "Women's liberation, what does it mean? Well, I'll tell you what it means to me: It means liberating women from the \$400 million in disposable income they spend every year."

With Doug, what you see is what you get. And Johnson goes all in, oozing dirtbag, pinky-ringed

charisma: A smut peddler who apparently isn't exploiting those around him. It's a performance at once smarmy and jaunty and it goes down like candy. You're rooting for Doug to succeed, which is why it feels like such a setup to make Joyce a wideeved scold by comparison. Feminists can be fun! I mean, not here obviously, but just generally! Series creator Ellen Rapoport has cast the role well, because Lovibond finds all kinds of ways to tap into the humanity behind the character's exhausting facade - it's unclear if Joyce is even a good writer or editor; all signs point to no — and I'm not saying she has to be likable. Far from it. But she becomes increasingly wearisome screen company, in part, because it takes her so long to meet people where they're at, even people who are already on her side: "I

am in business with a man

who doesn't respect or value me." But he does. At least that's how Johnson is playing him. She just thinks respect should look ... more respectable. Joyce is not as progressive as she thinks, which is a canny in-show critique of the character.

But it's also worth thinking about how "Minx" is constructed and why it prioritizes the point of view of a feminist who appears to have no community of women in her life, outside of her new female colleagues at the magazine and her unshockable older sister (Lennon Parham). Does Joyce seek out any women to commune with about these issues she claims to be so passionate about? Who knows! Well, there's that one time when she's shuttled off into a kitchen with the wives of the mobbed-up truck drivers who are responsible for distributing the magazine, which proves to be an enlightening experience,

but for the most part it's as if she were grown in a petri dish labeled "feminist" and then sent out into the world with a placard around her neck announcing: "I am woman, hear me roar." We don't know how this Pasadena-raised country club princess came to her worldview or why, and that feels like an important piece that's missing. But look at me, being the buzzkill when "Minx" just wants

you to have a good time. The thing is, Joyce can't read a room to save her life and it's an annoying trait. But also, I get it: Sometimes you spend so much time fighting a world that wants to deny you even a crumb of equality or validation that you become single-minded and can't recognize another way of doing things — or admit when your principles ring hollow.

So much of the show is focused on Joyce's learning curve, course-correcting bit by bit, and yet she's

neither the smartest nor the most interesting person in the room. That would be Doug's assistant, Tina, who is brought to life in a wry performance from Idara Victor. She's savvy and skeptical, and she's the closest thing Doug has to a confidant at work. A font of information about how the business actually functions, she's also the lone Black woman in the office. What's her story? Would love to know. (At a bar after work, Doug orders drinks for the two of them: A Maker's and a banana daiquiri – the daiquiri is for him. Love this detail.)

Visually, "Minx" is a hoot filled with polyester as far as the eye can see and I was especially taken with the purple-and-green madras plaid maxi dress Joyce wears, going full Breck girl, to mingle among a more conservative set on their hunt for potential advertisers.

There are other visual elements worth mentioning. "Minx" is not coy about nudity when it comes to any gender, but it's primarily focused on the abundance of male centerfold models who parade through the magazine's offices. The show is downright cheerful about the glories of the male appendage, but only in its relaxed state. It's a decision you notice precisely because of the modesty exhibited later on, in an entirely different context; during a prelude to sex, the camera suddenly averts its gaze, conspicuously framing things just above the guy's pelvis. It becomes clear where the show's comfort level with full-frontal male nudity stops, and it's at the bedroom door.

Where to watch: HBO Max

CELEBRITIES

Ye no longer performing at Grammys

From news services

Ye will not be performing at the Grammys this year. A report published in The Blast said that the musician was told Friday that his act had been pulled from the show, which is set to take place on April 3.

A representative for Ye. who legally changed his name from Kanye West, confirmed the information in The Blast article in an email. She did not offer additional comment.

Ye had not been confirmed yet as someone set to perform at the show, which has announced acts such as Billie Eilish, BTS, Lil' Nas X and Olivia Rodrigo. Ye's album "Donda" is nominated for album of the year.

According to reports, the decision was made in response to his "concern-

ing online behavior." Trevor Noah, who is hosting the Grammy Awards, called Ye's treatment of his ex-wife Kim Kardashian "more and more belligerent" on The Daily Show last week.

"What we're seeing here is one of the most powerful, one of the richest women in the world unable to get her ex to stop texting her, to stop chasing after her, to stop harassing her," Noah said.

'CODA' takes top PGA

prize: "CODA" won the top prize at Saturday's Producers Guild Awards. The story of three adult family members who are deaf and a fourth who is not and seeks a singing career beat out bigger contenders, including "The Power of the Dog," "Dune" and "West Side Story."

This movie has been an amazing ride, it was such a special one to make, there was so much love and so much heart put into it," said Fabrice Gianfermi as he accepted the award with his "CODA" co-producers Philippe Rousselet



Ye, nominated for album of the year, will not be performing at the Grammy Awards on April 3. AMY HARRIS/INVISION 2019

and Patrick Wachsberger. The top PGA winner has gone on to take home the top Academy Award in three of the past four years and 10 of the past 13. The Oscars are set for Sunday.

'Price Is Right' going on tour: "The Price Is Right" is hitting the road, putting the game show on wheels and making 50 stops on a coast-to-coast tour for anyone who can't make the trip to the Los Angeles studio. The "Come On Down Tour" — separate from the TV show or live stage shows - will kick off Friday at the Santa Monica

Fans will be able to win prizes by guessing the correct retail price for various items in such games as Plinko and compete in a Showcase Showdown.

Pier in California.

'The Batman' crosses \$300M: "The Batman" is still going strong three weeks into its theatrical run, with a tight grip on the

top spot at the box office. Robert Pattinson's debut as the Dark Knight earned an additional \$36.8 million over the weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday. It also slid past the \$300 million mark ahead

of projections. The Warner Bros. film is the highest grossing movie of 2022 and the second highest since the beginning of the pandemic (first place goes to "Spider-Man: No Way Home"). "The Batman" also picked up \$49.1 million internationally, bringing its global total to \$598.1 million.

March 22 birthdays: Actor William Shatner is 91. Journalist Wolf Blitzer is 74. Composer Andrew Lloyd Webber is 74. Sportscaster Bob Costas is 70. Actor Lena Olin is 67. Actor Keegan-Michael Key is 51. Actor Will Yun Lee is 51. Actor Kellie Shanygne Williams is 46. Actor Reese Witherspoon is 46. Actor Constance Wu is 40.



ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Workplace harassment leaves one confused

Dear Readers: Every year I step away from my column briefly to work on other creative projects. Today's "Best of" topic from 10 years ago concerns workplace sexual harassment.

Dear Amy: I work from a home office and take occasional meetings with employees of the nonprofit I work for. I also meet with

Recently the organization hired a new director; I was working as a consultant on a project for the organization at the time.

Soon after his hiring, the new director asked to have lunch with me.

The new director and I went to a nearby restaurant to talk about possible future projects, etc. At the end of the

luncheon, as we were saying goodbye outside the restaurant, I reached my hand out to shake his. Suddenly, he pulled me

toward him and kissed me full on the lips. I was so shocked that I

said a weak goodbye and left him standing there.

I completed my assignment feeling awkward and wondering if I wanted to work with him in the future. This is not a decision I can make lightly as there are very few job opportunities in my area of expertise.

Amy, I would appreciate your perspective on this situation. I wonder if he has a problem that should be reported to the board of trustees.

I also wonder if I am making too much of this. Am I? Kissed Consultant

the question of whether

Dear Kissed: Addressing

you are making too much of this: Do your other colleagues and clients kiss you on the lips after a business meeting? Does

colleagues and consultants on the lips after a meeting? I assume the answer to both questions is no.

this director kiss male

People who are subjected to unwanted sexual contact often wonder if they are overreacting. They are often also encouraged to doubt their own instincts.

There is a very commonsense boundary around business meetings, and it's not really that challenging or confusing to stay within the boundary. Physical contact after a business meeting should be confined to a handshake.

Yes, I believe you should write a letter to the board of trustees regarding this new employee.

Explain in very simple language what happened, i.e., "At the end of our business lunch, when I extended my hand to shake his, Mr. Smith kissed me on the lips. I was shocked at the time, and upon reflection continue to be concerned about his conduct. In my experience consulting for this organization, I have always conducted myself professionally and until now have always been treated with professionalism."

If the board handles this well, expect to revive your business relationship and work with the organization in the future.

Dear Amy: Your answer to "Kissed Consultant" was way off the mark. This consultant was kissed by a new director of the nonprofit she was consulting for, and you want her to notify the board of directors?

What if he misread her signals, or what if he is from another culture and didn't know any better? - Appalled

Dear Appalled: This man should already know better than to pull a business associate close and kiss her full on the lips after their first meeting.

One way to educate him would be for the board of directors to let him know what is and is not acceptable professional conduct.

Dear Amy: I know you took flak for your response to the "Kissed Consultant," who said that a male director of the nonprofit she was consulting for kissed her on the lips after a business lunch.

I thought your comments were right on. When this happened to me, I reported it to my boss (it was his boss who was the kisser).

He talked to his boss, who apologized. - Happened to Me

Dear Happened: Unless

this sort of thing has happened to you, I don't know if people can understand what a violation this is from a business associate who, incidentally, is also a complete stranger. No matter what the

intention might have been, this is not an affectionate or friendly act, but one that seems aggressive. It is highly inappropriate.

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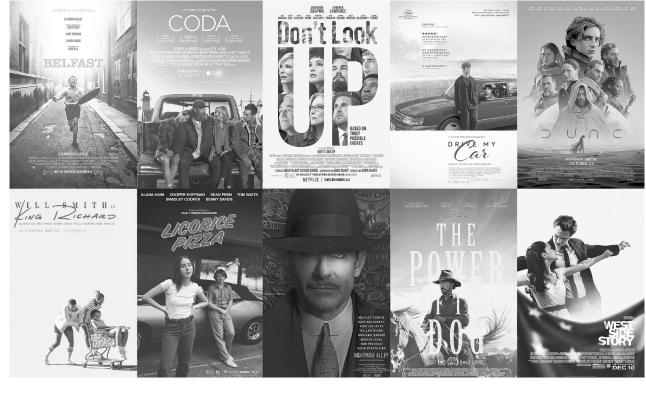
Will Campion's 'Power of the Dog' reign supreme?

Predicting winners at ceremony that's still up in the air

By Lindsey Bahr and Jake Covle Associated Press

Ahead of the 94th Academy Awards – airing March 27 on ABC - writers Lindsey Bahr and Jake Coyle share their predictions for major categories in a ceremony with much still up in the air. Nominees are listed in italics.

Best picture "Belfast"; "CODA"; "Don't Look Up"; "Drive My Car"; "Dune"; "King Richard"; "Licorice Pizza"; "Nightmare Alley"; "The Power of the Dog"; "West Side Story." Bahr: At this point, it really feels like the award will go to "The Power of the Dog." It is paradoxically both a safe choice and a game changer in that it would be a first best picture win for Netflix after years of trying. Jane Campion's last major shot at picture (and director) was with "The Piano," but in 1994 that basically stood no chance against "Schindler's List." This time, it's her film that has the leg up on the Spielberg. And yet there is a distant possibility that "CODA" could "Little Miss Sunshine"/"Green Book" its way in there as the feelgood alternative (which was what "Belfast" was supposed to be). Coyle: I'm calling the "CODA" upset. The smart money is on Campion's film. But the win for "CODA" at the Screen Actors Guild – where "The Power of the Dog" failed to get nominated for best ensemble – suggests strong passion for the film, and maybe a crowdpleasing advantage on the academy's preferential



of streaming in Hollywood. It would hand a streaming service - Netflix or Apple — Hollywood's most prestigious honor for the first time. Maybe that's a big deal, maybe it's belated confirmation of what everyone has known for some time.

Best actress

Jessica Chastain, "The Eyes of Tammy Faye"; Olivia Colman, "The Lost Daughter"; Penelope Cruz, "Parallel Mothers"; Nicole Kidman, "Being the Ricardos"; Kristen Stewart. "Spencer."

C: This has been the cruelest of categories, laying waste to most expectations and some very sensational performances. Lady Gaga, Caitriona Balfe, Jennifer Hudson and my favorite performance of the year – Renate Reinsve ("The Worst Person in the World") — are just some of the masses among the snubbed. Yet, surprisingly, a very Oscar bait-y performance from a movie

released early in the season Jessica Chastain as the televangelist Tammy Faye has moved to favorite status after winning the SAG Awards. That may partly be because Chastain, a three-time nominee but never a winner, is one of Hollywood's best actors and the time has come to honor her, for a film she steered into existence. I think she'll win, but Olivia Colman — typically brilliant in "The Lost Daughter" - could sneak in for her second Academy Award.

B: Chastain should have already won several Oscars at this point, and not even necessarily for the ones she got nominations for ("The Help" and "Zero Dark Thirty"). However improbable for a movie that has some big issues, including the way it turns a blind eye to Tammy Faye's complicities in the scam, the tide has shifted in her favor, and she'll probably get her win. Still, I still think there's a small possibility that it will

go to Kristen Stewart, who has been on a roller-coaster path after starting the season at the top.

Will Smith, "King Richard"; Denzel Washington, "The Tragedy of Macbeth"; Javier Bardem, "Being the Ricardos"; Benedict Cumberbatch, "The Power of the Dog"; Andrew Garfield, "Tick, Tick ... Boom!"

B: It's always a bit of a snooze when categories are locked for months, but it would be a major surprise if Will Smith didn't get his first Oscar win for "King Richard." Not only did he give a terrific performance in the film, but his SAG speech, in which he was funny, humble and gracious to his co-star Aunjanue Ellis and subjects Venus and Serena Williams, was also a helpful reminder of the power of his star charisma.

C: Smith will get the Oscar, a deserved win for one of the movies' most insanely

Best supporting actor Ciaran Hinds, "Belfast"; Troy Kotsur, "CODA"; Kodi Smit-McPhee, "The Power of the Dog"; Jesse Plemons, "The Power of the Dog"; J.K. Simmons, "Being the Ricar-

B: Among mostly firsttime nominees, "CODA's" Trov Kotsur went from breakthrough to frontrunner over the past couple months, winning at SAG, BAFTAs and Critics Choice, and he's likely to continue that streak come Oscar Sunday. The support for Kotsur and "CODA" has only become more enthusiastic recently, and it would be a history-making win. The 53-year-old is the first deaf man to have ever been nominated for an acting prize.

C: It's a very likeable group of performers, but Kotsur has this one in the bag. I think it will be one of the night's best moments, not just because of the historic nature of Kotsur's win, but because it's just reward for an actor who has long toiled and thrived on Los Angeles stages.

Best director

Paul Thomas Anderson, "Licorice Pizza"; Kenneth Branagh, "Belfast"; Jane Campion, "The Power of the Dog"; Steven Spielberg, "West Side Story"; Ryusuke Hamaguchi, "Drive My

C: Campion has long been the front-runner. For the trailblazing filmmaker, who nearly three decades ago became only the second woman nominated in this category, it's a coronation long in coming. Campion, the first woman ever to be twice nominated for best director, will win, and her cinematographer, Ari Wegner, will become the first woman to win that award — a triumph that should have happened long ago for women behind the camera.

TV Q&A

Was 'Marvelous Mrs. Maisel' scene filmed at Carnegie Hall?

By Rich Heldenfels Tribune News Service

ballot. Either film, though,

will symbolize the ascent

Q: Was the scene with Midge and Lenny Bruce in "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel" really filmed at

Carnegie Hall? **A:** The Amazon Prime Video show enjoyed a three-day shoot in the real Carnegie Hall, the New York Daily News reported last June. That was as the hall was coming out of its coronavirus-related shutdown, so "Maisel" did not have to work around concert performances. And the Daily News noted that Carnegie's "fastidious upkeep and devotion to its history" meant that the show did not have to do much to make it look the way it did in the early '60s period of that "Maisel" episode, which was the finale of the fourth season. A fifth season will be the show's last.

Q: I am wondering about "American Ninja Warrior." It used to be on an NBC Sports channel, and suddenly the channel and show disappeared.

A: NBCUniversal shut down its sport channel NBCSN at the end of last year and has moved its programming to other services, including USA Network and its streaming service Peacock. When the decision to drop NBCSN was announced a little over a year ago, the Wall Street Journal noted that the sports channel had struggled competitively against other sports operations. USA was also losing audience, so "by putting popular sports on the USA channel, NBCUniversal is hoping it can increase its value of USA Network to distributors," the paper said.

As for "American Ninja Warrior," that was being shown in repeats on NBCSN with episodes



Luke Kirby plays comedian Lenny Bruce in the fourth season of "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel." AMAZON PRIME VIDEO

airing first on the NBC broadcast network. A new season, the show's 14th, is in the works. And there are repeats out there, including on Peacock and the Bally Sports channels.

Q: I am an avid William Petersen fan and watched every episode of the original "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation." He returned in "CSI: Vegas" but now it seems to have disappeared. Will it return?

A: "CSI: Vegas," which blended some veterans of the old series with a new cast, made 10 episodes in its first season and has aired them all. The show has been picked up for a second run to air sometime in the 2022-23 season. But Petersen, who reprised his role of Gil Grissom, reportedly signed on only for the first season as an actor and will not be on camera in the second season (he remains an executive producer). In addition, Jorja Fox — who played Grissom's colleague and lover — will not be back for the second season either. As Grissom goes, she tweeted, so goes Sara.

Q: I remember watching a movie when I was a little girl (over 60 years ago)

that was the story of a horse named Bess. The horse was on the front line of a military conflict. Please help me identify the movie.

A: You are probably remembering "Gallant Bess," from 1946. It involved a young man (played by Marshall Thompson) and a horse he finds in the jungle while serving in World War II. According to the Turner Classic Movies site, the movie was based on a real incident.

Q: Why was Julian McMahon (Agent Jess LaCroix) written out of

"FBI: Most Wanted"? A: Folks were surprised about the death of LaCroix, although it has been known for some time that McMahon was leaving the show, reportedly for "additional creative pursuits." With McMahon gone, Dylan McDermott will be joining "Most Wanted."

Do you have a question or comment about entertainment past, present and future? Write to Rich Heldenfels, P.O. Box 417, Mogadore, OH 44260, or brenfels@gmail.com. Letters may be edited.

HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19): Socializing shouldn't have to be a stressful activity, but today it could leave you reeling, one person after another demanding your attention. It could be too much, forcing you to put people on hold while you tend to work. Be wary of obligations that require your hard-earned money!

Taurus (April 20-May 20): It's all well and good to put in lots of effort — unless you burn out and lose your cool in the process. You work hard, but that could turn into something problematic when you throw caution to the wind. Be careful going off-book, because supervisors will remember.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Your sense of adventure could leave you stranded somewhere uncharted today. You could find yourself feeling like you've been pushed out on a ledge. Take things little by little rather than diving in headfirst. The more careful you act, the less likely you are to feel overwhelmed.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Your preferred method of doing things might not cut it under today's frenetic energy. You probably don't want to share your time with anyone who doesn't meet your high standards. That's generally fine, but going it alone may be impossible today!

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): People can ask as much as they want of you today, but whether or not you'll be able to give it is another story entirely. Your career could force a relationship into second place, underneath a matter of work or reputation. If you're called upon to tend to your responsibilities, a certain someone might have to wait their turn.

charming stars. Smith

ing Day."

might have already won

best actor (for "Ali") if not

for Denzel's titanic performance that year in "Train-

Best supporting actress

Jessie Buckley, "The Lost

Daughter"; Ariana DeBose,

"West Side Story"; Kirsten

Dog"; Aunjanue Ellis, "King

Dunst, "The Power of the

Richard"; Judi Dench, "Belfast."

C: Thanks to her show-

stopping, breakthrough

performance in "West Side

Story," DeBose has had this

category locked down all

be moved by the histori-

cal symmetry. Sixty years

ago, Rita Moreno won for

the same role, Anita, in

1961's "West Side Story,"

a crime to neglect Kath-

ryn Hunter's multiply-

B: DeBose should defi-

speech.

ing witches in "Macbeth."

What's foul isn't always fair.

nitely be ready with a killer

making her the first Latina

to win an Oscar. Still, it was

season, and it's hard not to

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): There are likely plenty of things to keep you busy today – keeping you on your toes as you become the most responsible and disciplined version of yourself, but that changes. Something exciting from far away could totally upset your efforts, but it should be worth it!

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Enjoying yourself might be difficult right now, but you can do it. Display your talents where everyone can see them. That's great on the surface but could hit you with an unexpected case of shyness. If you don't feel like putting yourself out there, then don't worry about it!

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): It seems that someone could shake things up when least expected, giving you the chance to focus on matters at home. Someone you value may decide to shake you out of your homey sensibilities and demand you get on their page.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You've got a million things to do today — or at least so it would seem, leaving little space in your schedule as you bounce from one appointment to another. While this can feel like treading water, today you're actually accomplishing something in the process. Try to focus solely on tasks with purpose and promise.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): There's a fine line between work and play. You're probably very focused on putting your nose to the grindstone and ensuring that your efforts have results. That's all well and good, but today give yourself permission to slack off a bit — you can get back to business tomorrow.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Pushing can sometimes work in your favor, but today it seems going full steam ahead could burn you out that much quicker. You'd be wise to take things slowly for the day, because if you go too far too fast you could wind up overwhelmed with the effort.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Finding an even balance between your brain and your intuition could be rather difficult. You may feel caught in a dream state saying things you don't mean. Think carefully before you speak, because sticking your foot in your mouth is only too easy.

TODAY IN **HISTORY**

Associated Press

On March 22, 1765, the British Parliament passed the Stamp Act.

In 1894, the first Stanley Cup championship game was played; Montreal defeated Ottawa, 3-1.

In 1963, the Beatles' debut album, "Please Please Me," was released in the United Kingdom.

In 1978, Karl Wallenda. the 73-year-old patriarch of "The Flying Wallendas" high-wire act, fell to his death while attempting to walk a cable strung between two hotel towers.

In 1988, both houses of Congress overrode Presi-

dent Ronald Reagan's veto of the Civil Rights Restoration Act.

In 1997, Tara Lipinski, at age 14 years and 10 months, became the youngest ladies' world figure skating champion in Lausanne, Switzerland.

In 2019, special counsel Robert Mueller closed his Russia investigation with no new charges.

323

BONUS PUZZLE PAGE

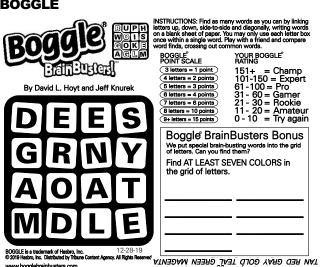
An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at <u>PlayJumble.com</u>

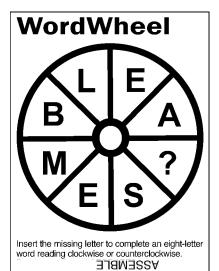


SUDOKU

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BOGGLE





WORD SEARCH

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, or diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them. CHAMPAGNETACSUMWTK PINOTNOIRAREINGOIV GLPASSYANNODRAHCNI PINOTAGENYPIGRODNQ ALASRAMEATKJTILG EKLCXTBKGEOKOEOAEI NQLAOBORKDSMNDRMWN AMERITAGEQGEIAAASO SBEOKPJSJUVRPMBYIT SILTPYPXSIALOJUAEB UOMARSANNEQOQGNXRL OBARDOLINOWTSOAVEA RXENNOLLIMESMJMC EHCANERGOTLCAVALSC SCORTESEUYARDERA GATTINARAOOAUYCRNJ F U M E B L A N C S E V Q H D E A X NANGIRACEMALBECTWD

Wordsearch: wine (and other drinks)

BARDOLINO BAROLO **BEAUJOLAIS** BOAL **CARIGNAN** CAVA CHAMPAGNE **CHARDONNAY CLARET**

CORTESE

FUME BLANC GAMAY GATTINARA GRAPPA GRENACHE KIR MADEIRA

EISWEIN

MALBEC

MARC

MERITAGE MERLOT MUSCAT **NEBBIOLO** PINOT BLANC **PINOT GRIS** PINOT NOIR

MARSALA

MEAD

MARSANNE

PINOTAGE PORT **RETSINA** ROSE **ROUSSANE** SEMILLON **SHERRY** SOAVE **TOKAY** VIOGNIER

TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews

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Crea	ited b	y Jac	queli	ne E.	Math	ews			_		_	4/9/17

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

- ACROSS "Dharma &
- Actor __ Chaney Jr. 8 Part in a TV series or movie
- 9 Leaves out 12 Item in a motel room drawer
- 13 "Queen of Soul" 14 Actress Sommer 15 Rex of "CSI: Miami"
- 16 "Men __ Certain Age" 18 Pub order
- 19 Actress Winningham
- 20 Sitcom about a deacon 21 Harness strap 23 "A Man __"; Vin Diesel
- _"; Vin Diesel vigilante action movie 24 "__ Plus 8"
- 25 Actress MacGraw and her
- namesakes "__ Whisperer" 28 Mr. Crosby
- 29 Outdoor nighttime dance party 30 "__ the Press"
- 32 Suffix for balloon or cartoon 35 Night we watch the new 'MacGyver": abbr.

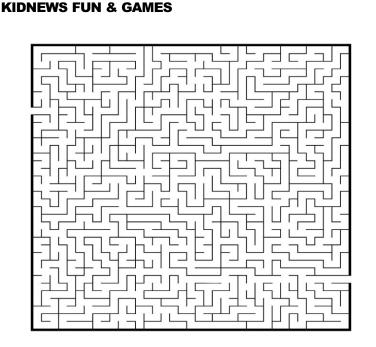
- 36 Brother of Lisa and Maggie 37 As busy as
- 38 Iced pastry
- 40 Sarandon or Saint James 41 Actor Martin
- "__ Man"; Robert Downey Jr. film
 "__ You Smarter Than a 5th
 Grader?"
- 44 Blocker and Rather

DOWN Barbecue

- 2 Actor on "NCIS: New Orleans"3 Women's magazine
- 4 Seventh letter 5 Actor Greene 6 "The __"; Gregory Peck/Lee
- Remick horror movie
- 7 Word with wit or pick 10 Actor on "Criminal Minds"
- 11 "60 Minutes" correspondent who
- died in 2016

 12 Arthur, for one

 "In in the __"; George Clooney
- 15 Singer and actress Abbe 17 "The Atom __ Show"; 1960s
- cartoon series 19 Barack's 2012 opponent
- 20 Neat as
- 22 At __; relaxed 23 Dismounted
- 25 Assist in crime 26 ...DDE, JFK, LBJ, RMN, _ 27 Long-eared animals
- 30 Atlantic Coast state 31 Goof 33 Penn and Lennon
- 34 "The Whole _ Yards"; Bruce Willis movie
- 36 Jethro Bodine's portrayer 37 Invisible emanation
- 39 Actress Thompson 40 Caesar, for one



CHAMPAGNE (TACS) UM) WTK

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wine (and other drinks)

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CONTAINER

JUMBLE

Unscramble these fou one letter to each squato form four ordinary w	r Jum are,	,	lo
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			JUMBLE app
©2016 Tribune Conter All Rights Reserved.	nt Agen	cy, LLC	
DIGRI			free JUST
			×.

SANXYT **GUHACT**

Print your answer here:

BECOME WHEN YOU COMBINE "THE" AND "IRS"? Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Jumbles: WEARY RIGID SYNTAX CAUGHT What does your money become when you Answer: combine "THE" and "IRS"? — THEIRS

ARROW WORDS

Fill in the grid using the clues provided in the direction of the arrows. When complete, unscramble the letters in the circles to reveal a mystery word.

"Cheers" role		Autocrats	7	Habit	Y	Afternoon socials	Stunned	V	Folder material	7	Ladies' club policy	Cap (candy)
				Residents of Canada's capital		V					V	V
Free ticket		"Green Gables" girl	Á				Berates		Oui's opposite			
Flower		Nostrils		Container weight					'I think,' in texts Actress Merrill			
-		•		•	Place to play	A			•			Used u
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Novelist Charles	J					Aromatic spice	•			Y	V	
				Steve Carell film, _ Almighty					Slam			
Gusto		European carrier	\			Writing pad	<u> </u>					

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Find 5 differences











Classic Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau







Garfield By Jim Davis



Shoe By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



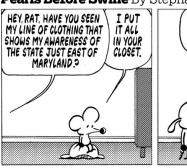


Dustin By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker





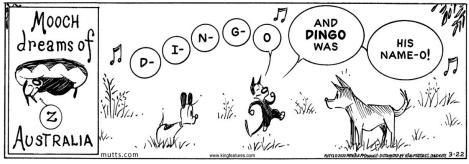
Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis







Mutts By Patrick McDonnell



Arctic Circle By Alex Hallatt





Get Fuzzy By Darby Conley





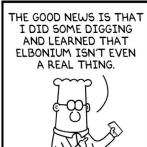


Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



Dilbert By Scott Adams





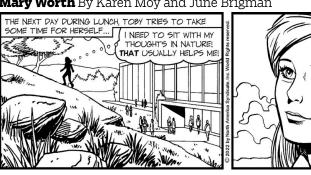


Gil Thorp By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin





Mary Worth By Karen Moy and June Brigman



A LITTLE BREAK AWAY FROM THE CROWD...AND AWAY FROM CRITICAL EYES. 3/22/22

Rex Morgan, M.D. By Terry Beatty





Judge Parker By Woody Wilson and Mike Manley





Baldo By Cantu and Castellanos







Funky Winkerbean By Tom Batiuk







Lio By Mark Tatulli







Wizard Of Id By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker









Rhymes With Orange By Hilary Price



Monty By Jim Meddick



For Better Or For Worse By Lynn Johnston









B.C. By Hart



Beetle Bailey by Mort, Greg & Brian Walker





Hi & Lois By Greg and Brian Walker and Chance Browne





Hagar The Horrible By Chris Browne





Non Sequitur By Wiley Miller



Curtis By Ray Billingsley









Pickles By Brian Crane WHATARE YOU MAKING GRAMMA?







Zits By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman





Rose Is Rose By Pat Brady and Don Wimmer









Mother Goose And Grimm By Mike Peters



CROSSWORD

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

/c	ross	50
1	Give in (to)	
7	Tasted or tested	51
4	Mae: student	
	loan group	54

15 Mother-of-pearl source I Would 16 Leave You": "Camelot"

song 17 One-named singer with the 2002 #1 hit "Foolish"

- Took the loss Movie critic Roger
- Remarkable 20 things, in old slang
- Liam who played Schindler
- Runs scored on a solo homer Implied
- Barn bale Singer Shore 30 whose name is associated
- with a major LPGA golf tournament 31 Miso soup cube Neighborhood social events ..
- and what the four sets of circles are? 36 Putin's
- refusal 37 S.Pellegrino rival 38 Class-
- conscious gp.? Quarter-
- back Favre 40 "Doubt it" 43 Impediment for Moses
- 46 Golfer's appointment San __: San 48
- Francisco Bay city

- Steel support for concrete
- Against today the law Phil or Steve Opera with
- Desdemona Baseball's 55 Spanish rice home dishes Chaney of
- 56 Very tired horror City west of 12 Tolkien talking Dallas tree
- : "The 58 Names of four 13 Opus of them begin Da Vinci Code" with "New' sect
- Prison break fugitive, e.g. Down
- 1 Italian cheese 21 Corporal or private 2 Beach robe Pump or boot John of Monty

King'

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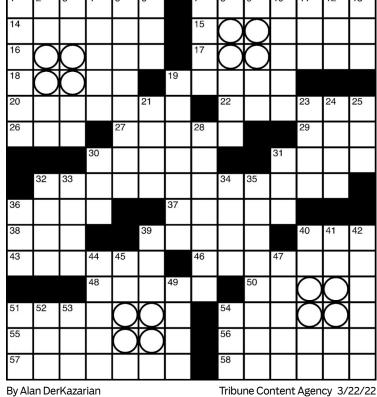
- 24 Klutzes Python 25 Manhattan Rock 'n' roller dubbed "The
 - sch. 28 "No choice for
 - me'
 - 30 URL speck

 - . Woodman: Oz
- traveler Shakespeare's "always" 32 Memory unit

- 33 Show the way 7 Swedish auto 8 Not in class
 - 34 Baptism or bris Skiing champ

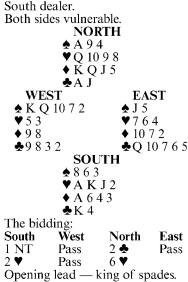
 - 35 Ore-Ida morsel 36 "All Things Considered"
 - airer 1942 Philippine 39 battle site
 - 40 Corn kernel Charlotte :
 - U.S. Virgin Islands capital
 - 42 Cousins of
 - storks
 - 44 Bloodhounds follow it
 - 45 Two under par "Lovergirl" singer
 - Marie

 - "Who__is coming?"
 - Hoppy brew
 - letters
 - 52 Research
 - site
 - 53 Floral ring
 - 54 Some ER cases



BRIDGE

BY STEVE BECKER



A<u>s ye</u> sow, so shall ye reap

Part of the skill of good declarer play consists of inducing your opponents to make errors. The more often a declarer gives the opposition a chance to make an error, the more often will the desired result

Consider this deal where South is declarer at six hearts. The contract cannot be made against best defense, yet there is a real possibility to make the slam if declarer sets the stage properly.

Let's say you're South and win West's king-of-spades lead with the ace, East playing the five. You draw three rounds of trump and then cash the A-K-Q of diamonds and A-K of clubs, ending in your hand.

At this point you lead the six of spades toward dummy's 9-4, and West, who holds the Q-10 of spades, must decide which of them to play.

If he makes the normal play of the ten, you make the slam! East wins with the jack, and since his only remaining cards are the Q-10-7 of clubs, he must lead one of them. This allows you to discard a spade from one hand while you ruff in the other, and the slam is home.

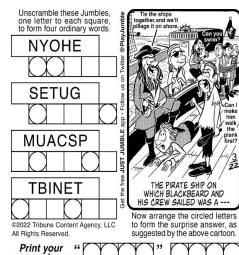
If West is smart enough to play his queen when you lead the spade toward dummy, he can defeat you, but it has cost you nothing to present him with an opportunity to make an error.

West has a very difficult decision to make when you lead the spade. From his point of view, he should play the ten if he thinks you started with the J-6-3, and the queen if he thinks you started with 8-6-3. West might guess right, or he might guess wrong, but at least he should be given the chance to go astray. Lots of points - 1,530 of them ride on his decision.

> **Tomorrow:** Doing what comes unnaturally.

JUMBLE

BY DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK



answer here: Jumbles: TOKEN DOILY LAGOON Yesterday's They added up the costs to repair the math teacher's car and then - TOTALED IT Answer:

TODAY'S SUDOKU

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS

CROSSWORD PUZZLE





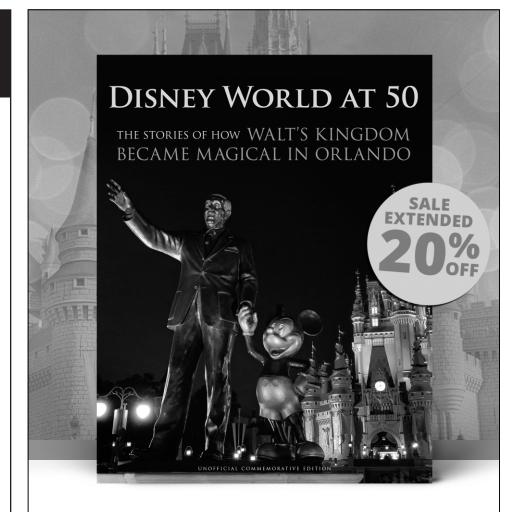


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Voting ends 4/24/22



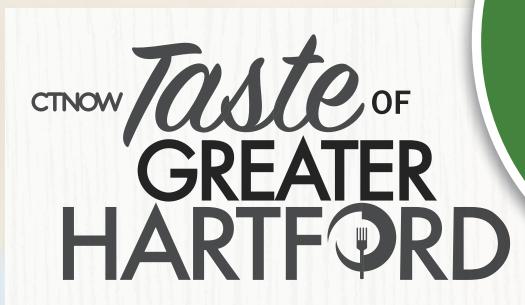
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March 14-27



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SPORTS

COURANT.COM/SPORTS

UCONN WOMEN'S BASKETBALL NCAA TOURNAMENT



CLOE POISSON/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

PRESSURE SITUAT

game of the NCAA Tournament at Gampel Pavilion in Storrs. The winner heads to the Sweet 16 on Saturday in Bridgeport to face Indiana. The Huskies' game wasn't over in time for this edition. For the result and story, go to courant.com/sports.

HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY

A long time coming

Wethersfield takes Division II crown over North Haven for its 1st title in 16 years

By Lori Riley Hartford Courant

 ${\it HAMDEN-The Wethers-}$ field hockey team watched a lot of film of its three-goal loss to North Haven on Feb. 26, the last game of the regular season.

What the Eagles found was that they were beaten to the puck. A lot.

Coach Dennis Tulimieri stressed that he would prefer that did not happen again in the Division II state championship game against North Haven, winner of 21 straight.

It didn't.

Wethersfield took a two-goal lead into the third period, added a power-play goal in the last minute and won 3-0 over top-seeded North Haven on Monday night for the Eagles' first state title in 16 years at the People's United Center at Quinnipiac.

"I forgot how good it feels," Tulimieri said, laughing.

Junior Jack Millen scored the first goal with 6:53 left in the second period, and senior Colby Quinn added another goal during a power play with 1:05 left. Senior William McCarter scored the last goal with 1:17 left in the game on another power play.
Wethersfield's sophomore

goalkeeper Matt Ruck made 28 saves, including 11 in the third period.

"Our defense had a great game today. We backchecked like hell. Our team played amazing," Ruck said. "My defense had my back. They cleared out the pucks, cleared out the people to make it easier, and I just made the saves.

"I stayed calm. I stayed in my groove. I was like, 'If I don't let in any more goals, we'll win a state championship."

Jared Anderson made 20 saves for North Haven (23-3). which outshot Wethersfield,

"I have a lot of faith in our players," Tulimieri said. "We just put it in their hands. You work hard, you do the things we ask of you, you will get the rewards. I told them the only

Turn to Hockey, Page 2

RED SOX

Cora focused on improving club's poor infield defense

By Jason Mastrodonato Boston Herald

FORT MYERS, Fla. - When manager Alex Cora sat down with infield coach Carlos Febles and the rest of his coaching staff after the 2021 season, they discussed what part of their defense most needed upgrading.

They landed on first-step quick-

From left to right, Rafael Devers. Xander Bogaerts, Christian Arroyo/ Kiké Hernandez and Bobby Dalbec struggled as an infield unit in 2021. Measured by defensive runs saved, the Sox were negative-14 at third base, negative-3 at shortstop, plus-6 at second and negative-14 at first

By creating a plan focused on being faster and more prepared with their first step, the Red Sox think they can get more out of their infield this year.

'We touched based with them in November in our exit meetings, some things that they needed to do," Cora said. "Strength and conditioning and explosive things that you know (the training staff) put together for certain guys, and you can tell.

Turn to Sox, Page 4



Trevor Story should help shore up the Red Sox's infield defense, though he's moving from shortstop to second base, a position he hasn't played since 2015 as a minor leaguer. NICK WASS/AP

YANKEES

Taillon, Severino provide good news for rotation

By Mark Didtler **Associated Press**

TAMPA, Fla. — The New York Yankees are getting good news about the rotation behind ace Gerrit Cole.

Jameson Taillon became the second starter in two days coming off an injury to have a positive first spring training start.

Taillon, who had offseason surgery to repair a right ankle tendon, went two scoreless innings Monday in the Yankees' 5-2 win over the Philadelphia

"I'm definitely in a better spot Turn to Yankees, Page 4

Inside

Max Scherzer throws five innings in spring debut, with Mets fans finally behind him. Page 4

than before the surgery," Taillon said. "It's still feeling like there's some things I can do in the training room and some things I can do in the weight room with like my running progression and jumping and things like that. But I was in a much worse place last year."

Righthander Luis Severino,

Safety Tip of the Day

As the hours of sunrise and sunset change, protect your vision by keeping your windows clean, including the outside and the inside of your windshield.

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UP NEXT

UConn WBB: NCAA Sweet 16 (if necessary) vs. Princeton/Indiana, Saturday, time TBD; NCAA Elite Eight (if necessary) vs. TBD, March 28, time TBD; NCAA Final Four (if necessary) vs. TBD, April 1, time TBD Celtics: Jazz, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.; Timberwolves,

TBD, April 1, time TBD

Celtics: Jazz, Wednesday
7:30 p.m.; Timberwolves,
Sunday, 6 p.m.; at
Raptors, Monday,
7:30 p.m.

Knicks: Hawks, Tuesday,

7:30 p.m.; at Hornets, Wednesday, 7 p.m.; at Heat, Friday, 8 p.m. **Nets:** at Grizzlies, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.; at Heat, Saturday, 8 p.m.; Hornets, Sunday, 7:30

Bruins: Lightning, Thursday, 7 p.m.; Islanders, Saturday, 12:30 p.m.; Maple Leafs, March 29, 7 p.m.

Rangers: at Devils,

Tuesday, 7 p.m.; Penguins, Friday, 7 p.m.; Sabres, Sunday, 5 p.m. **Wolf Pack:** Springfield, Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Springfield, Friday, 7 p.m.;

Hershey, Saturday, 7 p.m.

TV/RADIO BASEBALL

1 p.m.: Yankees at Blue
Jays. (Live) MLB
4 p.m.: Northwestern at
Notre Dame. (Live) ACC
4 p.m.: Reds at Dodgers.
(Live) MLB

BASKETBALL
7 p.m.: NIT St.
Bonaventure at Virginia.
(Live) ESPN
7 p.m.: CBI First Semifinal.
(Live) ESPN2
7:30 p.m.: Hawks at
Knicks. (Live) TNT
9 p.m.: NIT Vanderbilt at
Xavier. (Live) ESPN

9:30 p.m.: CBI Basketball Tournament Semifinal. (Live) ESPN2 10 p.m.: Clippers at Nuggets. (Live) TNT GOLF

8 a.m.: Ladies Euro Tour Aramco Saudi Ladies International, Third Round. (Same-day Tape) GOLF

10 a.m.: Ladies Euro Tour Aramco Saudi Ladies International, Final Round. (Same-day Tape) GOLF HOCKEY

7 p.m.: Rangers at Devils. (Live) MSG **LACROSSE**

5 p.m.: Women's College Stony Brook at Brown. (Live) NESN **7 p.m.:** Boston University

at Harvard. (Live) NESN **SOFTBALL 7 p.m.:** Liberty at Virginia.

(Live) ACC
7 p.m.: Oklahoma at
Kentucky. (Live) SEC
TENNIS

11 a.m.: Miami Open, WTA 1st Round. (Live) TENNIS

Hockey

from Page 1

thing I would be disappointed in is if they didn't put out the effort. They put out the effort, and look at the results.

"Tonight, what we told them was we have to sprint to that puck. We have to be more aggressive to the puck than we were the first game. We studied the heck out of the first game. We found out we were allowing them to win the races to the puck. We were not going to let that happen tonight."

North Haven controlled play in the first period, but the momentum shifted in the second, especially after the first goal.

"It was our goal coming into this season, and we worked super hard to achieve this goal," Quinn said. "We skated a lot harder. We were a lot more motivated.

"Being the underdog made us more motivated to win every battle and win this game."

KNICKS

Young, Hawks can push NY further from play-in tournament contention

By Stefan Bondy New York Daily News

About 10 months after his Broadway bow, Atlanta Hawks guard Trae Young

has a chance to bury the Knicks again.

It's not the same magnitude as the playoffs, but a loss to the Hawks on Tuesday night would send the Knicks into a hole so deep the play-in tournament can be tossed into the Hudson River. As it stands, the Knicks (30-41) are five games behind the Hawks (35-36) for the final play-in spot with 11 to play.

spot with 11 to play.

A Knicks loss Tuesday would make it a six-game deficit with 10 games remaining, while also clinching the Knicks

a losing record after last season's surge to the fourth seed. (The Knicks could also mathematically overtake Charlotte or the Nets for a play-in spot, but their clearest path, albeit unlikely, is beating out Atlanta.)

Young hasn't played at Madison Square Garden since morphing into a supervillain during last year's playoffs, when the NYC crowd serenaded the point guard with "F—Trae Young" chants. He was in COVID-19 protocols for the Hawks' first appearance this season on Christmas, which ended with a Knicks win and a Kemba Walker triple-double.

performances, scoring over 40 points on six occasions since New Year's Day. He's fifth in the NBA in points per game, trailing only Joel Embiid, LeBron James, Giannis Antetokounmpo and Luka Doncic.

Young embraced his role as resident New York villain, even appearing at a WWE show in September to choke Rey Mysterio and get booed by the MSG crowd.

But the rivalry lost some juice because the Knicks and the Hawks have both disappointed this season.

Atlanta, which made a shocking run to the Eastern Conference finals last year, is struggling just to reach .500. It fell to the Pelicans on Sunday and is miss-

ing power forward John Collins, who is out indefinitely with a plantar fasciitis tear.

Kevin Knox, who was acquired from the Knicks in a January trade for Cam Reddish, hasn't cracked the rotation, playing sparingly with the Hawks as he did under Tom Thibodeau with the Knicks.

The Knicks, mean-while, are plunging toward another crossroads summer, without cap space and without a clear direction. But they have the opportunity Tuesday to exact a small measure of revenge against the fanbase's No. 1 enemy, and maybe avoid Young getting the last laugh at MSG for a second straight year.



The Nets' Ben Simmons, who has yet to play this season, has a herniated disk.

SARAH STIER/GETTY

NETS

Nash still optimistic Simmons will play this season

By Brian Mahoney Associated Press

NEW YORK — Ben Simmons has a herniated disk, but Brooklyn Nets coach Steve Nash said he still believes he can play this season.

Simmons had an epidural recently that Nash said he believed had relieved some of the pain in his back. Nash had revealed that step after it happened last week, but hadn't disclosed the nature of Simmons' injury until Monday, when he confirmed a report by The Athletic.

Nash had previously only said pain in Simmons' back flared up sometime after the Nets acquired him from Philadelphia on Feb 10.

"I'm not sure when they recognized it was beyond like a regular back flareup and a herniated disk or whatnot," Nash said before the Nets played the Utah Jazz on Monday night.

He said the herniated disk is an injury Simmons had earlier in his career.

Simmons is still not even practicing, but Nash hasn't given up hope the former No. 1 pick can get on the court this season.

"Yeah, I don't think it changes the outcome necessarily. We still have high hopes that he can come back," Nash said. "He's had moments during his rehab where he's on the court doing some things and it looks like he's about to turn a corner, and then there's a little setback. So I still feel optimistic that he can play for us."

Time is running out, though. The Nets had only 10 games left after Monday, followed by perhaps one or two in the play-in tournament it appears they'll have to get through to reach the playoffs. Nash said he doesn't think there's a point the Nets would feel was too late for Simmons to still make a difference, even after being inactive all season.

"I think if he's able to get back to playing, I think we'd want to incorporate him at any point," Nash said.

Nash said he believed Simmons had been training hard throughout this season in Philadelphia before the trade, and then his back problems returned and haven't been able to be controlled enough since to get him back on the court.

Nash had his own back problems at the end of his Hall of Fame playing career, though said all back issues were different so he couldn't speak much to Simmons'. "You just never know.

You never know how he responds," Nash said. "He can feel great and turn a corner in the next week or so, or it could be a longer-term thing. So we just have to be patient and see how it goes."

six-game deficit with ile games remaining, while also clinching the Knicks Toung has since flashed is propensity for thrilling cans on Sunday and is missed can son Sunday and is missed can

Celtics guard Derrick White waits for the ball as forward Al Horford blocks a shot by Oklahoma City Thunder guard Shai Gilgeous-Alexander Monday night in Oklahoma City. **KYLE PHILLIPS /AP**

CELTICS

Williams, Smart miss game against Thunder

By Mark Murphy Boston Herald

OKLAHOMA CITY — As has been the case occasionally this season, Celtics center Rob Williams was given Monday night off to rest his right knee because of a chronic case of patellar tendinopathy.

But coach Ime Udoka said that despite this being the Celtics' third game in four nights, Williams' scratch was unexpected.

"It wasn't planned. He had a flare-up with some tendinitis, specifically on the lob play last night," said the Celtics coach. "I saw when it happened. Jumped off the wrong leg and I saw him rubbing it, and it flared up a little bit, so giving him the night off."

Udoka said he doesn't expect Williams' absence to last more than one game — an important note, considering that the Celtics host Rudy Gobert and Utah on Wednesday night.

"Nah, you wouldn't think so. He'd had some tendinitis issues," he said. "It usually calms down pretty quickly."

Point guard Marcus Smart, who played in Sunday's win in Denver despite suffering from a sinus infection, was also given the night off.

"Just a little illness. It acted up late in the game," said Udoka. "Obviously he went out, but it's something that should be short term as well, just a flare-up of sinuses, or whatever you want to call it."

Tatum player of week: Celtics forward Jayson Tatum didn't just get his third Eastern Conference player of the week award of the season — it was his second this month. He joins Larry Bird and Kevin Garnett as the only Celtics to win the honor three times in one season. Tatum has now had two straight seasons of winning the honor three times

This time the Celtics star averaged 29.3 points, 7.7 rebounds and 5.0 assists in games against the Warriors, Kings and Nuggets — all on the four-game road trip that ended Monday night in Oklahoma City. He shot 59.2% overall and 57.1% from 3-point range (16 for

28) over that stretch.

Nesmith returns: After a number of starts and stops, Aaron Nesmith returned to action following a sevengame absence due to a right ankle sprain. Though there's no such thing as good timing with an injury, Nesmith's had been particularly snakebitten, coming at a time when he would have received some muchneeded playing time.

But the absence of Smart and Williams freed up some minutes Monday night for the second-year wing against Oklahoma City.

"No restrictions," Udoka said of Nesmith's status. "He went through his progression. He was up and down, so he'd be pain free one day and then be more sore the next day, and he had a really good day today. So nothing as far as minute-wise. It's just a pain-tolerance thing. That's what it's kind of been, him cutting certain directions, and now he feels comfortable with that. We're good throwing him out there.

BRUINS

DeBrusk is staying put, signs extension with Boston

By Jimmy Golen Associated Press

BOSTON — Boston Bruins forward Jake DeBrusk agreed a two-year, \$8 million contract extension Monday, hours before the NHL trade deadline, an abrupt change in direction for a player who had requested a trade and been shopped

around for months.

General manager Don Sweeney

said conversations about DeBrusk continued with teams until the 3 p.m. deadline, but having him signed for two more years gave the team more options and sends a signal to him that he's valued.

"We could have moved him prior to the deadline. We could revisit this in the summertime," Sweeney said. "He could also go forward — most importantly — with just playing hockey and realizing he's a big part

of our team."

The Bruins entered Monday night's game against the Montreal Canadiens with 81 points, solidly in fourth place in the Atlantic Divi-

DeBrusk, 25, has 15 goals and 11 assists this season. In his five-year NHL career, he has 82 goals and 78 assists

"The impact he can have on a hockey club, I think we believe

in," Sweeney said. "I sent a clear message to Jake, and he sent one to us, that he just wants to play hockey. The bottom line is, he knows he's an important part and if he plays to his capability, he's going to help us out."

Two days after acquiring defenseman Hampus Lindholm from Anaheim and one day after signing him to an eight-year contract extension, the Bruins made another move to shore up the defense, acquiring Josh Brown from Ottawa. Boston also gets a conditional seventh-round draft pick in exchange for sending Zach Senyshyn and a fifth-rounder to the Senators.

Brown, 28, has six assists this season while averaging 13:59 in ice time. Sweeney said he would have liked to add more depth on the blue line, which was one of Boston's weaknesses during recent playoff runs.

SCOREBOARD

EASTERN CONI				
ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GE
Philadelphia	43	27	.614	-
Boston	44	28	.611	- 17
Toronto	40	31	.563	3 1/2
Brooklyn	37	34	.521	6 ½
New York	30	41	.423	13 1/2
SOUTHEAST	W	L	PCT	GE
y-Miami	47	24	.662	_
Charlotte	37	35	.514	10 1/2
Atlanta	35	36	.493	12
Washington	30	40	.429	16 1/2
Orlando	19	53	.264	28 1/2
CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GE
Milwaukee	44	27	.620	_
Chicago	41	29	.586	2 1/2
Cleveland	41	31	.569	3 1/2
Indiana	25	47	.347	19 1/2
Detroit	19	52	.268	25
WESTERN CON SOUTHWEST	FERE W	NCE L	PCT	GE
Memphis	49	23	.681	
Dallas	43	28	.606	5 1/2
New Orleans	30	42	.417	19
San Antonio	28	44	.389	21
Houston	17	54	.239	31 1/2
NORTHWEST	w	L	РСТ	GE
Utah	45	26	.634	_
Minnesota	42	30	.583	3 1/2
Denver	42	30	.583	3 1/2
Portland	26	44	.371	$18\frac{1}{2}$
Oklahoma City	20	51	.282	25
PACIFIC	W	L	PCT	GE
x-Phoenix	58	14	.806	_
Golden State	47	24	.662	10 1/2
L.A. Clippers	36	37	.493	22 1/2
L.A. Lakers	31	41	.431	27
Sacramento	25	48	.342	$33\frac{1}{2}$
x-clinched playof				

Charlotte 106, New Orleans 103 L.A. Lakers 131, Cleveland 120 Portland at Detroit, late Miami at Philadelphia, late Utah at Brooklyn, late

Boston at Oklahoma City, late Toronto at Chicago, late Washington at Houston, late Minnesota at Dallas, late **TUESDAY'S GAMES**

Golden State at Orlando, 7p.m. Atlanta at New York, 7:30p.m Chicago at Milwaukee, 8p.m. L.A. Clippers at Denver, 10p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES Atlanta at Detroit, 7p.m. New York at Charlotte, 7p.m. Sacramento at Indiana, 7p.m. Brooklyn at Memphis, 7:30p.m. Golden State at Miami, 7:30p.m. Utah at Boston, 7:30p.m. Orlando at Oklahoma City, 8p.m. Phoenix at Minnesota, 8p.m. Houston at Dallas, 8:30p.m. Philadelphia at L.A. Lakers, 10p.m. San Antonio at Portland, 10p.m.

THURSDAY'S GAMES Cleveland at Toronto, 7:30p.m. Chicago at New Orleans, 8p.m. Indiana at Memphis, 8p.m. Washington at Milwaukee, 8p.m. Phoenix at Denver, 9p.m.

SUNDAY'S RESULTS Indiana 129, Portland 98 Memphis 122, Houston 98 New Orleans 117, Atlanta 112 Orlando 90, Oklahoma City 85 Phoenix 127, Sacramento 124, OT Utah 108, New York 93 San Antonio 110, Golden State 108 Toronto 93. Philadelphia 88 Boston 124, Denver 104

BNP PARIBAS OPEN Sunday at Indian Wells Tennis Garden, Indian Wells, Calif., hardcourt outdoors MEN'S SINGLES, CHAMPIONSHIP #20Taylor Fritz d. #4Rafael Nadal,

ATP SINGLES RANKINGS

 Daniil Medvedev, Russia
 Novak Djokovic, Serbia 3. Alexander Zverev, Germany 4. Rafael Nadal, Spain 6. Matteo Berrettini, Italy 4,928 7. Andrey Rubley, Russia 8. Casper Ruud, Norway 4.590 Felix Auger-Aliassime, Canada 3,883 10. Jannik Sinner, Italy 11. Hubert Hurkacz, Poland 12. Cameron Norrie, Great Britain 3,305 13. Denis Shapovalov, Canada 14. Diego Schwartzman, Argentina 3.020 15,. Roberto Bautista Agut, Spain 2,480 16., Pablo Carreno Busta, Spain 17. Reilly Opelka, USA 18. Nikoloz Basilashvili, Georgia 19. Carlos Alcaraz, Spain 20. Taylor Fritz, USA 21. Lorenzo Sonego, Italy 22. Aslan Karatsev, Russia 1.933 23. John Isner, USA 24. Marin Cilic, Croatia

25. Cristian Garin, Chile **WTA SINGLES RANKINGS** 1. Ashleigh Barty, Australia 2. Iga Swiatek, Poland 5.776 3. Maria Sakkari, Greece 4. Barbora Krejcikova, Cz Rep 5. Aryna Sabalenka, Belarus 6. Paula Badosa, Spain 5,033 4.862 Anett Kontaveit, Estonia 4,686 8. Karolina Pliskova, Cz Rep 9. Garbine Muguruza, Spain 4.252 10. Ons Jabeur, Tunisia 11. Danielle Collins, U.S. 2,975 2.971 12. Jelena Ostapenko, Latvia 13, Emma Raducanu, Britain 2,699 14. Ana. Pavlyuchenkova, Russia 15. Angelique Kerber, Germany 16. Victoria Azarenka, Belarus 17. Coco Gauff, U.S. 18. Elena Rybakina, Kazakhstan 19. Simona Halep, Romania 2,221 20. Elina Svitolina, Ukraine 21. Jessica Pegula, U.S. 22. Leylah Fernandez, Canada 23. Veronika Kudermetova, Russia 2.035

25. Tamara Zidansek, Slovenia

1,931

COLLEGE BA FAVORITE	LIN	IE.	UNDERDOG
Virginia			onaventure
at Xavier	31/		Vanderbilt
UTEP	41		uthern Utah
Texas A&M	21		Nake Forest
BYU	3		shington St.
Fresno State	13		ngstown St.
Tresno state	1.	100	THURSDAY
Arizona	2		Houston
Villanova	5		Michigan
Gonzaga	9		Arkansas
Texas Tech	1		Duke
			FRIDAY
UCLA	2	No	rth Carolina
Purdue	12	1/2	St. Peter's
Kansas	71	/2	Providence
Miami	21	/2	Iowa State
NBA			TUESDAY
FAVORITE	LINE	O/U	UNDERDOG
Golden State	81/2	(217)	at Orlando
Atlanta	2		at New York
at Milwaukee	61/2	(232)	Chicago
at Denver	61/2	(2191/2)	LA Clippers
NHL			TUESDAY
FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERI	
at Washington			
at Carolina		Tampa	
at Pittsburgh			
NY Rangers	-196		Jersey +162

at NY Islanders off Ottawa

at Los Angeles -120 Nashville

https://sportsbook.fanduel.com/

For the latest odds, go to FanDuel Sportsbook,

-126 Philadelphia -130 Vegas

-144 Edmonton

-245 San Jose

+105

+120

+198

+100

at Detroit at Winnipeg

at Calgary at Arizona

NHL							
EASTERN C					E PTS	GF	GA
Florida	62	42	14	6	90	254	180
Tampa Bay	61	39	16	6	84	205	174
Toronto	62	39	18	5	83	229	189
Boston	63	39	19	5	83	191	169
Detroit	62	25	30	7	57	178	232
Buffalo	63	22	33	8	52	167	220
Ottawa	62	22	35	5	49	162	204
Montreal	63	17	36	10	44	160	238
METRO.	GP	W	L	ОТ	PTS	GF	GA
Carolina	62	41	15	6	88	203	148
N.Y. Rangers	63	40	18	5	85	189	160
Pittsburgh		38		9	85	205	167
Washington	64	35	19	10	80	214	180
Columbus	63	32	28	3	67	210	234
N.Y. Islanders	60	26	25	9	61	162	166
Philadelphia	62	20	31	11	51	156	214
New Jersey	62	22	35	5	49	188	226
WESTERN C	:01	IFE	RE	NC	Ε		
CENTRAL		w			PTS	GF	GA
Colorado		44				241	173
St. Louis	61	34	18	9	77	217	173
Minnesota	60	36	20	4	76	225	196

St. Louis	61	34	18	9	77	217	17	
Minnesota	60	36	20	4	76	225	19	
Nashville	62	36	22	4	76	204	17	
Dallas	61	34	24	3	71	179	18	
Winnipeg	63	29	24	10	68	197	19	
Chicago	63	22	32	9	53	167	21	
Arizona	62	20	38	4	44	162	22	
PACIFIC	GP	W	L	ОΤ	PTS	GF	G	
Calgary	62	38	16	8	84	215	14	
Los Angeles	64	34	22	8	76	182	18	
Edmonton	62	35	23	4	74	212	19	
Vegas	64	34	26	4	72	205	19	
Vancouver	64	30	26	8	68	183	18	
Anaheim	64	27	26	11	65	183	20	
San Jose	62	27	27	8	62	163	19	
Seattle	63	19	38	6	44	164	22	
NOTE: Two po								
for overtime loss. Top three teams in								
each division	and	d tw	/0 V	vild	card	ds pe	r	

MONDAY'S RESULTS Vegas at Minnesota, late Nashville at Anaheim, late

conference advance to playoffs.

TUESDAY'S GAMES Columbus at Pittsburgh, 7p.m. N.Y. Rangers at New Jersey, 7p.m. St. Louis at Washington, 7p.m. Tampa Bay at Carolina, 7p.m. Ottawa at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30p.m. Philadelphia at Detroit, 7:30p.m. Vegas at Winnipeg, 8p.m. Edmonton at Dallas, 8:30p.m San Jose at Calgary, 9p.m. Seattle at Arizona, 10p.m. Nashville at Los Angeles, 10:30p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES New Jersey at Toronto, 7p.m. Pittsburgh at Buffalo, 7:30p.m. Vancouver at Colorado, 9:30p.m. Chicago at Anaheim, 10p.m.

THURSDAY'S GAMES Dallas at Carolina, 7p.m. Florida at Montreal, 7p.m. Tampa Bay at Boston, 7p.m. Detroit at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30p.m Ottawa at Winnipeg, 8p.m. Philadelphia at St. Louis, 8p.m. Vancouver at Minnesota, 8p.m. San Jose at Edmonton, 9p.m Chicago at Los Angeles, 10p.m. Nashville at Vegas, 10p.m.

SUNDAY'S RESULTS Philadelphia 2, N.Y. Islanders 1 Dallas 3, Washington 2 N.Y. Rangers 2, Carolina 0 San Jose 4, Arizona 2 Winnipeg 6, Chicago 4 Buffalo 3, Vancouver 2 (OT)

GOALTENDING L			GA	GAA
GOALS AGAINST AVI	LKAGE	ur	UA	UAA
Igor Shesterkin	NYR	41	81	2.05
Frederik Andersen	CAR	42	85	2.06
Jacob Markstrom	CGY	48	98	2.06
Tristan Jarry	PIT	49	110	2.28
Ilya Sorokin	NYI	41	93	2.29
Andrei Vasilevskiy	TBL	48	114	2.36
Vitek Vanecek	WSH	32	70	2.37
Darcy Kuemper	COL	43	97	2.41
Jake Oettinger	DAL	34	78	2.47
Juuse Saros	NSH	52	127	2.47
Sergei Bobrovsky	FLA	41	102	2.57
Jack Campbell	TOR	40	101	2.65
Thatcher Demko	VAN	52	134	2.68
Jonathan Quick	LA	35	93	2.70

GOALS ALLOWED	TEAM	GA	sv	S
Vitek Vanecek	WSH	70	781	851
Anton Forsberg	OTT	77	862	939
Jake Oettinger	DAL	78	868	946
Igor Shesterkin	NYR	81	1230	1311
Linus Ullmark	BOS	82	816	898
Frederik Andersen	CAR	85	1094	1179
Ilya Samsonov	WSH	90	811	901
through Sunday				

SC	CC	E	2		
W	L	T	PT	GF	GA
3	0	1	10	7	2
	0		8	10	5
2	0				1
2					4
2	_	_			2
2		_			8
2					4
		_			8
					4
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					11 10
		_	-		GA
					2
					2
2					3
	_	_			4
2					4
					3
					7
					5
					5
		_			8
		_	1	4	9
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SATURDAY'S MATCHES Real Salt Lake at Sporting KC, 7 p.m.

Orlando City at Portland, 4 p.m.

SUNDAY'S RESULTS Columbus 1, N.Y. Red Bulls 1 Seattle 1. Austin FC 1 Los Angeles FC 3, Vancouver 1

SATURDAY, APRIL 2 Liverpool vs. Watford, 7:30a.m. Brighton vs. Norwich, 10a.m. Burnley vs. Man City, 10a.m. Chelsea vs. Brentford, 10a.m. Leeds vs. Southampton, 10a.m. Wolverhampton vs. Aston Villa, 10a.m. Man United vs. Leicester, 12:30p.m.

6 4 19 29 55 22 312 12 22 38 21

29 4 5 20 18 63 17

Brentford

Watford

Leeds Everton

U.S. MEN'S SCHEDULE q-Thursday: vs. Mexico, 10 p.m. q-March 27: vs. Panama. 7 n.m. **q-March 30:** vs. Costa Rcia, 9 p.m. q-World Cup qualifying

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

MEN'S NIT TUESDAY'S QUARTERFINALS St. Bonaventure vs. Virginia, 7p.m. Xavier vs. Vanderbilt, 9p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S QUARTERFINALS Texas A&M vs. Wake Forest, 7p.m. BYU vs. Washington St., 9p.m. Semifinals, Tuesday, March 29

at Madison Square Garden, New York MEN'S CRI MONDAY'S QUARTERFINALS NC-Wilmington 76, Drake 75 N. Colorado 87, NC-Asheville 84 Middle Tennessee 76, Boston U. 46 Ohio vs. Abilene Christian, late

TUESDAY'S SEMIFINALS
Drake-UNC-Wilmington winner vs. N.
Colorado-UNC-Asheville winner, 7p.m. Middle Tennessee-Boston U. winner vs Ohio-Abilene Christian winner, 9p.m. SUNDAY'S FIRST ROUND NC Wilmington 93, VMI 78 No. Colorado 74, Fla. Atlantic 71 Boston 71, NC Greensboro 68

THE BASKETBALL CLASSIC MONDAY'S SECOND ROUND Coastal Carolina 84, Fla. Gulf Coast 68 SC Upstate at South Alabama, late TUESDAY'S SECOND ROUND Southern Utah at UTEP, 8p,n WEDNESDAY'S SECOND ROUND
Youngstown St. at Fresno St, 10p.m.

Abilene Christian 82, Troy 70

WOMEN'S NIT MONDAY'S SECOND ROUND Drexel 61, Bucknell 58 Boston College 94, Quinnipiac 68 Seton Hall 70, Va. Commonwealth 67 Toledo 79, Kent State 59 Middle Tenn. 67, Wake Forest 55 Alabama 81, Tulane 77 Drake 62, Northern Iowa 55 Vanderbilt vs. Liberty, late Marquette vs. Purdue, late

WEDNESDAY'S THIRD ROUND UCLA vs. Wyoming, TBA Boston College vs. Columbia, TBA Drexel vs. Seton Hall, TBA Marquette/Purdue vs. Toledo, TBA Vanderbilt/Liberty vs. MTSU, TBA S. Dakota St. vs. Drake, TBA Houston vs. Alabama, TBA

SUNDAY'S SECOND ROUND S. Dakota St. 78, Minnesota 57 Houston 63 Tennessee Tech 55 Columbia 62, Old Dominion 59 Wyoming 97, Tulsa 90 Oregon State 74, Portland 56 New Mexico 73, San Diego 69 UCLA 61, Air Force 45

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL INVITATIONAL SUNDAY'S CHAMPIONSHIP St Mary's (Cal.) 80, Cleveland State 73

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL SPRING TRAINING AMERICAN LEAGUE

DOSCOII		•	1.000
Kansas City	2	0	1.000
Chicago	4	1	.800
Toronto	3	1	.750
Cleveland	2	1	.667
Oakland	1	1	.500
Los Angeles	2	2	.500
Texas	1	1	.500
Baltimore	1	2	.333
Detroit	1		.333
New York	1	2	.333
Seattle	1	3	.250
Minnesota	1	4	.200
Houston	0	3	.000
Tampa Bay	0	3	.000
NATIONAL LEAGUE	W	L	PCT.
Miami	3	0	1.000
St. Louis	3 2 3 2 3 3	0	1.000
Milwaukee	2	0	1.000
Pittsburgh	3	1	.750
Atlanta	2	1	.667
Chicago	3	2	.600
Colorado	3	2	.600
Cincinnati	2 1	2	.500
New York			.333
Philadelphia	1	2	.333
San Francisco	1	2	.333
Washington	1		.250
San Diego	1	3	.250
Arizona	1	4	.200
Los Angeles	0	2	.000
Standings do not refl	ect tie q	ıam	es

MONDAY'S RESULTS Baltimore 10, Minnesota 8 Boston 5, Atlanta 0 Toronto 3, Detroit 1 Miami 3, N.Y. Mets 0 N.Y. Yankees 5, Philadelphia 2 Pittsburgh 5, Tampa Bay 1 Chi. Cubs 3, Cincinnati 2 Chi. White Sox 8, L.A. Dodgers 6 Arizona 9, Seattle 1 Colorado 8, San Diego 4 Kansas City 8, L.A. Angels 5 Texas 25. Cleveland 12 St. Louis 7, Washington 3 Milwaukee vs. San Francisco, late

Atlanta vs. Minnesota., 1:05n.m. Detroit vs. Philadelphia, 1:05p.m. Baltimore vs. Pittsburgh., 1:05p.m. Miami vs. St. Louis. 1:05p.m. Boston vs. Tampa Bay, 1:05p.m. N.Y. Yankees vs. Toronto., 1:07p.m. San Diego vs. Cleveland, 4:05p.m. Cincinnati vs. L.A. Dodgers, 4:05p.m. Texas vs. Arizona, 4:10p.m. Colorado vs. L.A. Angels, 4:10p.m. Chi. White Sox vs. Milwaukee, 4:10p.m. Chicago Cubs vs. Seattle., 4:10p.m. Oakland vs. Kansas City, 6:05p.m. Houston vs. N.Y. Mets, 6:10p.m.

AUTO RACING

LATE SUNDAY: NASCAR CUP FOLDS OF HONOR QUIKTRIP 500 At Atlanta Motor Speedway Hampton, Ga., Lap length: 1.54 mile

1	12	William Byron	С	325	52
2	7	Ross Chastain	С	325	36
3	9	Kurt Busch	Т	325	39
4	13	Daniel Suárez	С	325	46
5	33	Corey Lajoie	С	325	32
6	6	Chase Elliott	С	325	40
7	14	Chris Buescher	F	325	30
8	26	Martin Truex Jr	Т	325	33
9	3	Joey Logano	F	325	28
10	11	Alex Bowman	С	325	31
11	22	Justin Haley	С	325	26
12	24		F	325	31
13	19	Bubba Wallace	Т	325	27
14	23	Erik Jones	С	325	29
15	1	Chase Briscoe	F	325	30
16	36	Josh Bilicki	С	325	0
17	2	Ryan Blaney	F	325	30
18	35	David Ragan	F	325	19
19		BJ McLeod	F	325	18
20	37	Greg Biffle	С	325	17
21	8	Kevin Harvick	F	325	16
22	10	Aric Almirola	F	325	22
23	27	Christopher Bell	T	325	15
24	29	Michael McDowell	F	321	13
25	31	Harrison Burton	F	321	12
26	32	Cody Ware	F	300-a	11
27	25	Todd Gilliland	F	297-b	10
28	5	Tyler Reddick	С	245-a	12
29	15	Denny Hamlin	T	212-a	17
30	21	Kyle Larson	С	212-a	9
31	28	Ricky Stenhouse Jr		200-a	13
32	16	Austin Cindric	F	200-a	5
33	4	Kyle Busch	T	171-a	4
34		Cole Custer	F	150-a	3
35		Austin Dillon	С	101-a	2
36		Ty Dillon	С	101-a	1
37		Noah Gragson	С	23-a	0
		lent; b-DVP; C-Chev	roi	et; F-F0	га,
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WI	nnei	r's average speed: 1	Zh.	מאר. mn	ITI.

Winner's average speed: 126.586 mph. Time: 3 hours, 57 minutes, 14 seconds. Margin of Victory: 145 seconds. Caution Flags: 11 for 65 laps. Lead Changes: 46 among 20 drivers. Top 16 in Points: 1. J.Logano, 136; 2. Kv.Busch, 132: 3. C.Elliott, 131: 4. K.Lar son, 126; 5. C.Briscoe, 126; 6. A.Almirola, 122; 7. R.Blaney, 118; 8. A.Cindric, 116: 9. T.Reddick. 114: 10. K.Harvick. 111; 11. A.Bowman, 109; 12. Ku.Busch, 109; 13. M.Truex, 109; 14. R.Chastain, 101: 15. W.Byron, 98: 16. A.Dillon, 97.



Lightning coach Jon Cooper on all the deals made at the NHL's trade deadline Monday: "Everybody's trying to get that extra edge — whatever they think that is." CHRIS O'MEARA/AP

NHL TRADE DEADLINE ANALYSIS

East up for grabs after flurry of deals

In quest for 3-peat, Lightning know others just got better

By Stephen Whyno Associated Press

Jon Cooper is keenly aware that the Lightning's path to hoisting the Stanley Cup a third consecutive year got more difficult after a series of big trades in recent days.

"It's just looks like the Atlantic's like one big arms race," Cooper said after practice Monday. "Everybody's trying to get that extra edge - whatever they think that is."

The path through the Eastern Conference is now an even more grueling ordeal than it appeared to be a week ago. Even in a sellers' market, every playoff-bound team in the East made at least one trade and each got better in a different way.

"Good teams could get upset (in the) first round and you never know what's going to happen after that," Capitals GM Brian MacLellan said. "Those eight teams are all good teams: I think on any given night, one could beat the other."

While the Avalanche and Flames have separated themselves from the rest of the pack in the West, good luck designating a favorite in the East. After all the activity in the days leading up to the deadline, at least three teams could stake that claim.

Atop the list are the back-to-back defending champion Lightning, who after losing an entire forward line to salary cap attrition last summer somehow might now be deeper than they were their last two title runs. GM Julien BriseBois lived up to his wheeling-and-dealing rep by trading a combined three roster players, two first-round picks and a fourth-rounder for forwards Brandon Hagel, Nick Paul and Riley Nash.

The Lightning's trade for Hagel came in the aftermath of the rival Panthers going all in for the stout defenseman they've been seeking all season in Ben Chiarot. The hefty price of top prospect Ty Smilanic, a firstrounder in 2023 and another draft pick was no object for the NHL's highest-scoring team to solve its biggest need.

Then, for good measure, the Panthers sent their 2024 first-round pick to the Flyers for two-way forward and faceoff ace Claude

Giroux and got depth defenseman Robert Hagg from the Sabres. If Sergei Bobrovsky can recapture the form from his two Vezina Trophy seasons, the Panthers now look like they can win in the playoffs without having to outscore their problems.

The Maple Leafs might need to do that. Even after trading for defenseman Mark Giordano in their biggest pre-deadline move, they failed to solve their goaltending woes. The Leafs couldn't close a deal for Marc-Andre Fleury — who went from the Blackhawks to the Wild in the biggest trade of deadline day — and then lost Olympic gold medal-winning goaltender Harri Sateri to the Coyotes on waivers after attempting to sign him for the rest of the season.

Defenseman Hampus Lindholm landed with the Bruins, who over the weekend traded a first-round pick, two secondround picks and young defenseman Urho Vaakanainen for him. They re-signed him for \$52 million over eight years and would have made more moves if possible.

"The bottom line is the war of attrition starts from now until when the Cup is presented, and staying healthy's a big part of that," Bruins GM Don Sweeney said.

MacLellan acknowledged after acquiring depth forwards Marcus Johansson and Johan Larsson for the Caps that health will be a major factor in which team gets out of the East. It won't be easy in the Metropolitan part of the bracket after the moves made by the Hurricanes, Penguins and Rangers.

The Hurricanes, with help from the Panthers to make the cap math work, acquired forward Max Domi from the Blue Jackets. The Hurricanes didn't give up anyone from their roster and still added a talented player who can help them out of scoring slumps.

The Rangers did a little bit of everything to solidify a young, unproven team in front of elite goalie Igor Shesterkin. They acquired veteran defenseman Justin Braun from the Flyers and added two more versatile forwards, getting Andrew Copp from the Jets and Tyler Motte from the Canucks.

The Penguins made an even bigger splash up front by trading two roster players, a goaltending prospect and a second-round pick this summer to the Ducks for winger Rickard Rakell.

IN BRIEF

Mickelson won't play in Masters

News services

Three-time Masters champion Phil Mickelson, out of public view since his inflammatory remarks about the Saudifunded rival league and the PGA Tour, has decided not to play at Augusta National this

Mickelson's name was moved from the list of players expected to compete in the Masters to a section at the bottom titled, "past champions not playing."

The club confirmed that Mickelson has notified Augusta National he will not be playing. The Masters is April 7-10.

It will be the first time Mickelson isn't at the Masters since 1994, when he was recovering from a broken leg suffered while

Mickelson, who last year became golf's oldest major champion when he won the PGA Championship at age 50, was at the Saudi International when he accused the PGA Tour in a Golf Digest interview of "obnoxious greed."

Two weeks later, golf writer Alan Shipnuck published part of his upcoming biography on Mickelson that shed further insight into his involved with Greg Norman and the Saudi-funded "Super Golf League."

Mickelson hasn't played since the Saudi International on Feb. 6. He said in his statement that he "desperately needed" time away to sort our his priorities.

College basketball: LSU is filling its men's coaching vacancy with Murray State's Matt McMahon, according to reports. The hiring comes two days after Murray State's season ended with a loss to Saint Peter's in the second round of the NCAA Tourna-

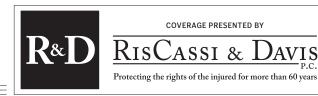
ment. McMahon, 43, replaces Will Wade,

who was fired March 12 for cause amid allegations of serious recruiting violations. ... Dara Mabrey scored a season-high 29 points, and No. 5 seed Notre Dame rolled past No. 4 Oklahoma 108-64 to earn a spot in the women's Sweet 16. Mabrey made 11 of 19 field goals, including seven 3-pointers. Sonia Citron scored 25 points and Maya Dodson added 20 for Notre Dame (24-8), which became the first team, men's or women's, to beat a higher-seeded team by at least 40 points. Taylor Robertson scored 19 points for the host Sooners (25-9), who committed 28 turnovers and shot just 32.3% from the floor.

NBA: Nets coach Steve Nash announced that G Ben Simmons has a herniated disk in his back. Nash remains optimistic that Simmons will play at some point this season. Simmons has yet to be cleared for practice since he was acquired from the 76ers just before the trade deadline last month. He hasn't played this season.

NFL: The Saints are bringing back QB Jameis Winston after not landing Deshaun Watson. Winston and the Saints agreed to two-year deal worth \$28 million with \$21 million guaranteed, ESPN reported. Winston, 28, went 5-2 in his first year as a starter with the Saints in 2021, but he suffered a knee injury Oct. 31.

NHL: King GM Rob Blake said he wasn't sure of Drew Doughty will play again this season. Doughty has missed the last six games after sustaining an upper-injury injury against the Bruins on March 7. The two-time Stanley Cup winner and blue-line anchor leads Kings defensemen with seven goals and 24 assists in 39 games.



WOMEN'S NCAA TOURNAMENT

Lady Vols escape Belmont for 1st Sweet 16 since 2016

By Teresa M. Walker

Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. - Sara Puckett hit a 3-pointer with 17.5 seconds left to put Tennessee ahead to stay as the fourth-seeded Lady Vols held off neighbor Belmont 70-67 on Monday night to advance to their first Sweet 16 since 2016.

The Lady Vols (25-8) improved to 23-1 on their home floor in the second round of a women's NCAA Tournament. They earned the program's 29th Sweet 16 berth and will meet top-seeded Louisville on Saturday in the regional semifinal in Wichita, Kansas.

Tennessee had to scrap for this win after blowing a 14-point lead in the third quarter to lead only 48-46 going into the final quarter. The Lady Vols scored the first four of the final quarter for a 52-46 lead.

The Bruins went up 61-60 on Madison Bartley's layup with 4:07 left. Tennessee tied it at 64 on a jumper by Alexus Dye with 2:39 left. Bartley put Belmont ahead 66-64 with another layup with 2:23 remaining.

Jamilyn Kinney, who attempted only seven free throws all season, missed both tries with 25.7 seconds left. After a Tennessee timeout, the Lady Vols got the ball to Puckett in the left corner, and she hit nothing but net.

Tamari Key hit three of four free throws for Tennessee inside the final 10 seconds. Bruins guard Tuti Jones hit her first free throw with 3.8 seconds remaining and missed the second. Destinee Wells had a final chance to force overtime, but her long 3 hit off the backboard above the rim before the buzzer.

Alexus Dye led Tennessee with 20 points and 11 rebounds, her fourth straight double-double.

Belmont (23-8) wanted to take advantage of being so close to home as only three programs all time with a winning record against the Lady Vols. They snapped a 13-game winning streak trying to join Quinnipiac in 2017 and San Francisco in 1996 as the only 12 seeds to reach a regional semifinal.

UCONN

BASEBALL

Huskies

in finale

of series

The 25th-ranked UConn baseball team

(14-4) dropped the series

finale 8-7 on Monday

afternoon at UC San Diego, but took two out

The Huskies battled back from multiple defi-

UConn produced its

best inning of the day

with a five-run fifth on

the strength of three hits.

Zach Bushling extended

his hitting streak to 11

games with a two-run

cits. They trailed 4-1 entering the fifth inning and 7-6 heading to the

of three in San Diego.

Staff report

eighth.

bow to UC

San Diego

Yankees

from Page 1

limited to four late-season relief appearances in 2021 after having Tommy John surgery on Feb. 27, 2020, had an encouraging outing Sunday despite giving up four runs in two innings against the Detroit Tigers. Afterward, Severino said healthwise he feels pretty good.

Taillon went 8-6 with a 4.30 ERA over 29 starts in his first season with the Yankees. Prior to last year, he hadn't pitched since May 1, 2019, while with the Pittsburgh Pirates because of Tommy John surgery.

Severino's two-inning stint was the first time he pitched at spring training in four years. He was hurt while warming up for his initial scheduled exhibition start in

"I felt, like, more nervous than 2015 (rookie year)," Severino said. "I threw two innings, hopefully next one I get three. I'm real excited about it."

A 19-game winner in 2018, Severino signed a four-year, \$40 million contract before the 2019 season. He was limited by shoulder soreness to three appearances in 2019, the first on Sept. 17 and the last on Sept. 28, plus a pair of postseason starts

"Watching Sevie throw



Yankees righthander Jameson Taillon warms up before the his spring training start Monday against the Phillies. He pitched two scoreless innings. LYNNE SLADKY/AP

yesterday made me super happy," Taillon said. "He looked super healthy and strong. I think we've got a lot of really good arms."

Nestor Cortes Jr., in the mix for the back end of the rotation, also had two strong

innings against the Phillies. "I'm excited about what

we have," Yankees manager Aaron Boone said. "I think pitching overall was a strength of ours last year. Again we're in middle, later part of March, so I don't want to get too far ahead of ourselves because we have a long way to go, but I do feel like we have the makings of a

really good staff both starting and relief corps."

Notes: Cole, bothered by left hamstring tightness late in 2021, had a simulated game Friday and is scheduled to do it again Tuesday. ... The Yankees finalized a minor league contract with INF/

OF Marwin Gonzalez, who joined the major league spring training camp. Gonzalez, 33, is a career .256 hitter with 101 homers and 397 RBIs. In 2021, the switch-hitter had a .199 average, hitting five homers and driving in 28 runs in 91 games with the Red Sox and Astros.

single. Erik Stock tied the score with his first triple of the season. Casey Dana followed

with a two-run homer, his third-straight day with a home run, to give UConn its first lead of the day, 6-4.

The Tritons responded with three runs in the bottom of the fifth to retake the lead. Garrett Coe came on with runners at the corners and no outs and recorded a strikeout and double play ball to keep the Huskies within a run.

Brady Afthim followed suit out of the UConn bullpen by stranding the bases loaded with backto-back strikeouts in the seventh.

Matt Donlan evened the score in the eighth with a two-out solo homer, his third home run of the season for UConn.

The Tritons (7-12) immediately responded with a run in the bottom half of the eighth and held on for the 8-7

victory. UConn starter Enzo Stefanoni gave up five hits, five runs and one walk in four innings, striking out three. Ian Cooke relieved Stefanoni after he walked the leadoff batter in the fifth, but Cooke failed to record an out, giving up four hits and two runs before Coe closed out the inning. Coe allowed one hit and two walks in 2 1/3

innings. UConn heads home after a 5-3 spring break trip and will take on Bryant on Wednesday at 3 p.m. at Elliot Ballpark in Storrs.

■ College results, schedule. Page 6

METS

Scherzer throws 5 innings in spring debut, with fans finally behind him

By Deesha Thosar New York Daily News

JUPITER, Fla. — There are quite a few things that are unique about this year's Mets spring training. Camp opened later than usual, due to MLB's lockout. There are only 15 exhibition games, rather than the typical 25. Spring training is also just 3 ½ weeks, rather than the usual six-week marathon.

On Monday, the abnormalities only continued when Max Scherzer threw five innings — yes, five — in his Grapefruit League debut. The three-time Cy Young winner stretched out all the way to 72 pitches and registered five strikeouts in the Mets' 3-0 loss to the Marlins on Monday. He gave up one run in the first, then settled in to retire nine consecutive batters. No free passes either, as Scherzer said he tried not to walk anybody and instead focused on attacking the zone with all five pitches in his intimidating arsenal.

And for the first time in Scherzer's 14-year career, the fans wearing orange and blue at Roger Dean Stadium were cheering for Mad

"It's fun to have these New York fans behind you now," Scherzer said. "Coming in and competing against them for so long, and now having them on your side, it's great. Seeing kids out there wearing your jersey, that always puts a smile on my face. I want to go out there and represent myself and the Mets as best I can."

The former Nationals pitcher said he is looking forward to experiencing the raucous crowd at Citi Field with Mets fans having his back for the first time.

"I like a hostile environment," Scherzer said. "I like it when it feels like the fans are going to come out of the stands and get you. Those are fun environments to pitch in. I'm a high-adrenaline pitcher, so I feel comfortable pitching in that environment. New York is definitely one of those types of environ-



The Mets' Max Scherzer pitches in the second inning of a spring training game against the Marlins on Monday. He gave up one run and struck out five in five innings. SUE OGROCKI/AP

ments that brought that type of energy. It's going to be fun pitching in the lot in that type of atmosphere.

Scherzer said he worked up his pitch count prior to spring training. When he wasn't acting as one of the lead negotiators for the players union, he was throwing live batting practice — often to Mets backup catcher Tomas Nido — at the Cressey Sports Performance complex in Palm Beach Gardens. Nido had already caught three live batting practice sessions for Scherzer before they came to Mets camp on March 11.

So Scherzer and Nido were already on the same page well before Monday. Nido also caught Scherzer in a simulated game at Clover Park last week. Scherzer hasn't thrown much in game situations to the Mets' starting catcher, James McCann.

"We've kind of worked some hitters. We've kind of worked some sequences,' Scherzer said of his comfortability with Nido. "He kind of understands what I want to do. So I would have to say I've actually thrown a lot more to Nido [than McCann]."

Scherzer emphasized that he can throw to any catcher that Mets manager Buck Showalter decides to put in the lineup. "I will make it work," Scherzer said.

Sox

from Page 1

"Yesterday that play by Raffy, that wasn't easy. I mean, spring training game, boom, first play to your right, catch it and throw it. That was a good play. That's a good beginning. We should be

Adding a plus-defender in Trevor Story to the infield should help, though the career shortstop hasn't played second base since 2015 in the minor leagues.

"I'm going to push for defense, and they know it," Cora said. "And there were some good times last year defensively; there were some rough ones.

"We're not the most athletic team in the infield, but we can turn groundballs into outs. Whatever you touch, you should turn into outs. You've got to make plays. That's it. It's not about your range."

Cora said defensive metrics are questionable to use, and he thinks some players are manipulating them for their own benefit. The Gold Glove voting now includes 25% statistics, with the SABR Defensive Index counting heavily in the award.

"It doesn't mean anything," Cora said of the Gold Glove. "We know it. Rafael Palmeiro won a Gold Glove, and he was a DH. ... I heard guys who know the system, and they know that every tag means a point. Every cutoff and

relay means a point. Every ball that you dive for and you don't throw, you stop the guy to get to second, it's extra credit. "So if that's what the Gold

Glove is, that you know how to beat the system to get the Gold Glove, well, it's not Cora joked that when he

was playing shortstop with the Red Sox, third baseman Mike Lowell bossed him around.

"Mikey Lowell used to tell me, 'Whenever they hit a pop-up to you, let me get it so I can win a Gold Glove," Cora said. "He used to lead the league in fielding percentage all the time. He took all the pop-ups. Go ahead, man. I just want a two-year deal."

New start for JBJ: Jackie Bradley Jr. is getting a lot of early at-bats as the Red Sox try to get a feel for his swing early in camp.

He's 1-for-10 thus far.

"There's a lot of work to do," Cora said. "We we've been through this path before. (Hitting coach Pete Fatse) had the experience with him in 2020, which is a good start. When we when we pulled the trade a half hour before (the CBA expired on Dec. 1), it was like yeah, we got him, but now we can't talk.

"It was gonna be beneficial to work with him, but it is what it is... It's about hitting the ball the other way, driving the ball to left center. When he does that he becomes very dangerous. So that's what we want."

Did you know?

More than 3.5 million children age 14 and younger receive medical treatment for sports injuries annually. According to the Center for Disease Control, more than half of all sports injurys are preventable.

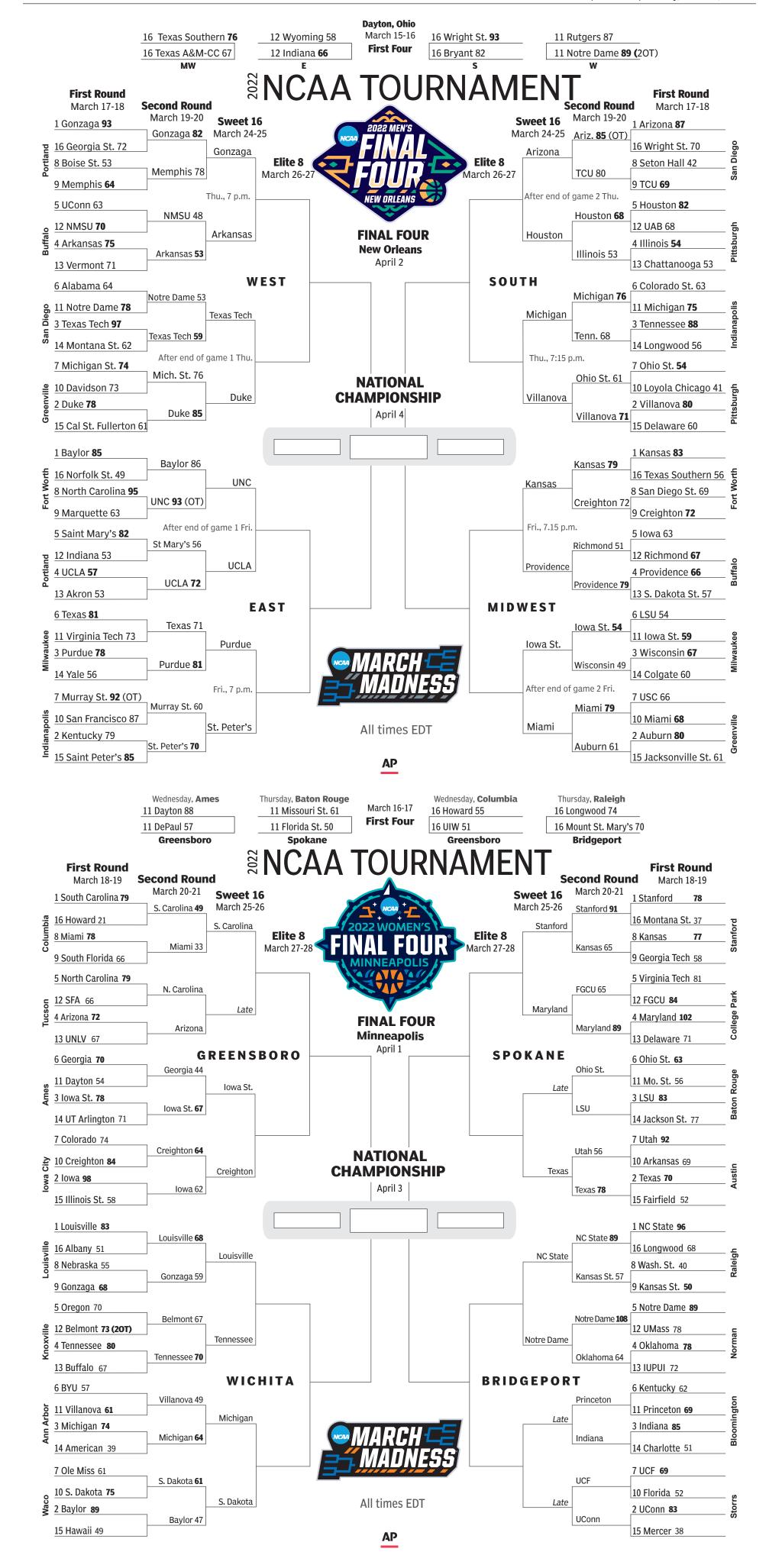
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WEATHER



Mostly sunny and wind at 10 to 15 mph.

HIGH Thickening breezy. Northwest 52 cloudiness. chance for a cooler. Rain is

shower late, a bit likely overnight.

WEDNESDAY

HIGH Periods of rain. breezy.

THURSDAY

Chance for early showers, mixed clouds and sunshine, milder.

43

FRIDAY HIGH

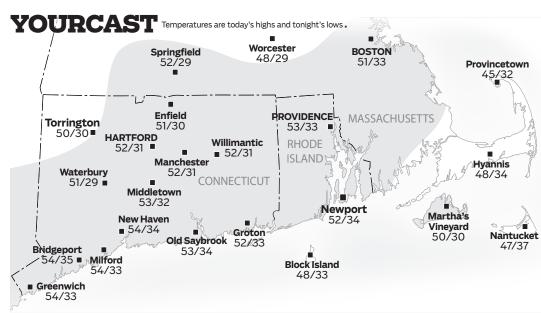
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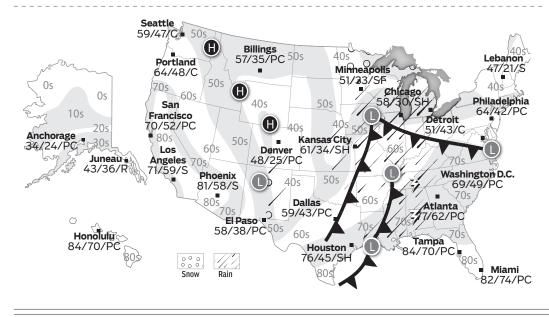
HIGH Mixed clouds and sunshine. pleasant.

37°

SATURDAY







OUTLOOK

High pressure will continue to bring mostly sunny skies on Tuesday with high temperatures mainly in the 50s, although portions of northern Litchfield County will remain in the upper 40s. The wind will be northwest at 10 to 15 mph. A frontal system will cause thickening cloudiness on Wednesday and there could be a few showers by late in the day, mainly in western portions of the state. The majority of the precipitation will be holding off until Wednesday night and Thursday. There could be a shower Friday morning, otherwise mixed clouds and sunshine with highs in the 50s. -Gary Lessor

ALMANAC

Precipitation In Inches Total Normal Yesterday (by 7 p.m.) 0.00 0.13 Month to date 1.40 2.62 Total this year 7.71 9.03 Snowfall In Inches Yesterday (by 4 p.m.) 0.0 Total this year 31.5 48.9 Precipitation, temperature at Windsor Locks

Air Quality Forecast For Today

Good	Moderate	
17		22 °
Air Quality Today	Ultraviolet Index Today	Wind Chill Today

	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise	6:51 a.m.	6:50 a.m.
Sunset	7:04 p.m.	7:05 p.m.
Moonrise	a.m.	12:29 a.m.
Moonset	9:13 a.m.	9:52 a.m.

Moon Phase						
Last Mar 25	New Apr 1	First Apr 9	Full Apr 16			

86 71 SH

-	recipitatio	on Histor	y In Inches	
.0				
.88	-			
.6				
.4		<u>-</u>		
.2				
.0 2/20	2/27	3/6	3/13	3/20
2/20	2121	3/0	3/13	3/20

Γides	High	Low	Temp.
N.L. State Pier	12:45 a.m.	7:39 a.m.	48°
	1:14 p.m.	7:41 p.m.	
Saybrook Jetty	1:56 a.m.	8:32 a.m.	46°
	2:25 p.m.	8:32 p.m.	
Connecticut River	4:39 a.m.	a.m.	
at Portland	5:08 p.m.	12:18 p.m.	
Madison	2:15 a.m.	8:37 a.m.	45°
	2:49 p.m.	8:50 p.m.	
New Haven	2:35 a.m.	9:01 a.m.	43°
	3:09 p.m.	9:13 p.m.	
Stamford	2:39 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	42°
	3:13 p.m.	9:27 p.m.	

River Stage at Hartford: 12.60 feet at 5:30 p.m.

Boating Weather	L.I. Sound W MSunny	L.I. Sound E MSunny	B. I. Sound MSunny
Wind	NW, 10-15	NW, 10-15	NW, 10-15
Seas	1 ft.	1-3 ft.	2-3 ft.

Temperature	High	Low
Monday	60 at 2:53 p.m	37 at 5:53 a.m
Normal for date	49	30
Record for date	82 in 1921	10 in 1986
A year ago	65	26

AROUND THE WORLD Today's forecast in cities not included in the maps above:

NEW ENGLAND							
Bangor 41 25 PC	Baltimore	65 42 PC	Nashville	76 55 SH	San Juan	84 72 S	Budapest
Burlington 43 22 PC	Bismarck	56 25 S	New Orleans	79 55 T	Tucson	75 46 S	Buenos Aires
Caribou 34 24 C	Boise	56 38 PC	New York	57 37 S	WORLD		Cairo
Concord 49 18 S	Buffalo	46 31 S	Okla. City	48 38 C	WORLD		Cancun
Montpelier 40 17 PC	Charleston	80 63 PC	Omaha	44 33 SF	Amsterdam	66 42 PC	Dubai
Mt. Wash. 8 7 PC	Cincinnati	66 56 SH	Orlando	85 67 PC	Athens	53 44 SH	Dublin
Portland 47 24 S	Cleveland	53 46 C	Pittsburgh	61 44 C	Bangkok	90 78 SH	Edinburgh
Woods Hole 49 30 S	Indianapolis	59 53 R	Raleigh	74 55 PC	Barbados	80 73 SH	Helsinki
W 00031101C 45 50 5	Jacksonville	83 64 PC	St. Louis	69 48 SH	Beijing	62 37 PC	Hong Kong
NATION	Las Vegas	79 53 S	Salt Lake City	50 33 PC	Beirut	56 49 PC	Istanbul
Albany 51 25 S	Miami Beach	80 76 PC	San Antonio	75 45 PC	Berlin	64 35 S	Jerusalem
Albuquerque 47 32 SH	Milwaukee	50 46 SH	San Diego	73 60 S	Bermuda	67 63 PC	Johannesburg
Atlantic City 61 33 PC	KEY: S Sunny	C Cloudy, P	C Partly Cloud	y, R Rain, S I	H Showers, SN	Snow, SF Sr	now Flurries, T T

Lisbon 62 52 SH 68 43 PC London 66 39 S Madrid 59 47 SH 75 67 SH Mexico City 82 50 PC 67 47 PC 62 36 S 87 76 PC Montreal 37 28 PC 48 28 S Moscow 60 44 PC 80 74 PC 59 42 PC New Delhi 102 71 S 43 30 67 42 Paris 66 61 SH 65 31 S Prague 49 40 SH Rio de Janeiro 79 71 SH 50 37 PC Rome nesburg 73 57 PC 53 37 PC Singapore ırries, **T** T-storms

Kingston

Stockholm 53 35 S Svdnev 79 67 SH Tokvo 52 41 C 41 35 PC Toronto 52 47 SH Vancouver Warsaw Weather page produced by WESTERN

65 34 S CONNECTICUT UNIVERSITY Weather Center

Range this year Last

Heating Degree Days Season Normal Season For July 1 - March 21 4485 4688

30-day Temperature History

Atmosphere High 30.02 at 9 a.m. 29.83 at 12 a.m. Barometer Dew point 34° at 2 a.m. 17° at 7 p.m.

SUNDAY'S LATE HIGH SCHOOL RESULT

BOYS BASKETBALL

CIAC State Tournaments Division I—Final at Mohegan Sun Arena EAST CATHOLIC VS. NOTRE DAME-WEST HAVE, LATE Robert Elliott 4-0-9, James Jones 5-2-14, Leondre Sanche 3-0-6, Preston Fowler 4-1-9, Samson Reilly 0-0-0. Totals 21-3-

NOTRE DAME-WEST HAVEN (25-2): Mekhi Conner 3-2-9 Timaury Gay 4-0-9, Andrew Lazarre 7-0-16, Tajae Jones 3-1-7, Jordan Elliott 3-0-6, Matthew Piechota 0-0-0, Amare Davis 1-0-2. Nicholas Preschel 0-0-0. Totals 21-3-49.

7 19 15 9 - 50 15 9 11 14 - 49

MONDAY'S HIGH

BOYS HOCKEY

CIAC State Tournaments

WETHERSFIELD 3. NORTH HAVEN 0 Goals: W—Jack Millen, Colby Quinn, William McCarter. Saves: W—Matthew Ruck, 22; NH—Jared Anderson, 20. Rec.:

SCHOOL RESULT

Division II—Final at People's United Center, Quinnipiac,

W-18-6-2: NH-23-3.

TUESDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

CIAC State Tournaments Division I—Final People's United Center, Quinniniac, Hamden No. 6Darien (15-8-1) vs. No. 1Notre Dame-West Haven (19-4),

MONDAY'S COLLEGE RESULTS

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL NCAA Div. I **Tourney**—Second Round **CENTRAL FLORIDA AT UCONN, LATE**

QUINNIPIAC AT BOSTON COLLEGE, LATE

UC-SAN DIEGO 8, UCONN 7 WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE 10, TRINITY 9

LUTHER 8, TRINITY 5 TRINITY VS. SUNY-COBLESKILL, LATE

MEN'S LACROSSE TRINITY AT SALVE REGINA, LATE

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

TRINITY 9, ST. JOHN FISHER 7 MEN'S TENNIS

TRINITY VS. GOUCHER, LATE **TUESDAY'S COLLEGE**

SCHEDULE

Trinity vs. SUNY-Cobleskill (Davenport, Fla.), 10:30a.m. Central at Rhode Island, 3p.m. Nichols at Eastern, 3:30p.m.

SOFTBALL

Trinity vs. Lawrence (Clermont, Fla.), 9a.m. Trinity vs. Wisconsin-Oshkosh (Clermont, Fla.), 11:15a.m.

St. Peter's at Sacred Heart, 3p.m.

St. John's at Fairfield, 7p.m

UConn at Albany, 3p.m.

MEN'S TENNIS

Trinity vs. Hobart (Orlando, Fla.), time TBA

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Trinity vs. William Smith (Orlando, Fla.), 8a.m. **WEDNESDAY'S COLLEGE**

SCHEDULE

BASEBALL Bryant at UConn, 3p.m. Marist at Hartford, 3p.m. Quinnipiac at Yale, 3p.m. Sacred Heart at Boston College, 3p.m. Eastern at Westfield State, 3:30p.m

Central at Yale (2), 12:30n.m. Fairfield at Hartford, 2:30p.m. Army at UConn, 3p.m.

Roger Williams at Eastern, 5p.m. Wesleyan at Coast Guard, 6p.m. St. Joseph at Anna Maria, 6p.m. Trinity at Endicott, 7p.m.

WOMEN'S LACROS

Manhattan at Sacred Heart, 3p.m.

Western at Wesleyan, 6p.m.

MEN'S TENNIS Trinity vs. Colorado College (Orlando, Fla.), 8a.m.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Trinity vs. Colorado College (Orlando, Fla.), 8a.m. Trinity vs. St. Thomas (Orlando, Fla.), 3p.m. THURSDAY'S

COLLEGE SCHEDULE BASEBALL

Trinity vs. Benedictine (Davenport, Fla.), 1p.m.

New England College at Eastern, 5p.m

SOFTBALL

Trinity vs. Buffalo State (Clermont, Fla.), 9:45a.m. Trinity vs. Manchester (Clermont, Fla.), noon

St. Joseph at Sarah Lawrence (2), 3p.m.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE Trinity at Springfield, 4p.m.

BIG EAST BASEBALL STANDINGS					
Team	CONF	СРСТ	OVR	PCT	
UConn	0-0	.000	14-4	.778	
Georgetown	0-0	.000	12-7	.632	
Creighton	0-0	.000	9-6	.600	
Butler	0-0	.000	9-10	.474	
Xavier	0-0	.000	8-13	.381	
St. John's	0-0	.000	5-14	.263	
Villanova	0-0	.000	3-13-1	.206	
Seton Hall	0-0	.000	1-15	.062	

Seton Hall 0-0 **MONDAY'S RESULT**

UC-SAN DIEGO 8, UCONN 7 TUESDAY'S SCHEDULE

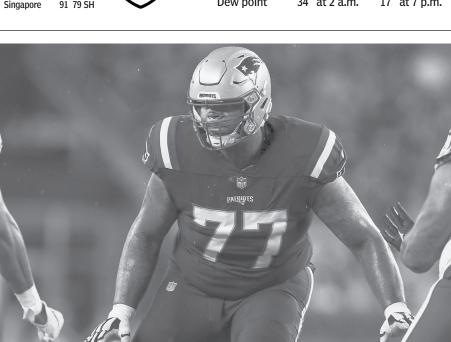
Hofstra at St. John's, 3p.m Butler at Tennessee, 6p.m

BIG EAST SOFTBALL STANDINGS					
Team	CONF	CPCT	OVR	PCT	
UConn	5-1	.833	14-11	.560	
Butler	4-1	.800	16-8	.667	
Providence	4-2	.667	15-7	.682	
Seton Hall	3-3	.500	11-13	.458	
Georgetown	2-2	.500	11-13	.458	
DePaul	1-2	.333	11-14	.440	
Creighton	1-3	.250	11-10	.524	
St. John's	1-5	.167	5-19	.208	
Villanova	0-2	.000	10-16	.385	

TUESDAY'S SCHEDULE St. John's at Manhattan, 2p.m.

Providence at Rhode Island, 3p.m.

BIG EAST BASKETBALL STANDINGS						
MEN'S (FINAL)						
Team	CONF	CPCT	OVR	PCT		
Providence	14-3	.824	25-5	.833		
Villanova	16-4	.800	26-7	.788		
UConn	13-6	.684	23-9	.719		
Creighton	12-7	.632	22-11	.667		
Seton Hall	11-8	.579	21-10	.677		
Marquette	11-8	.579	19-12	.613		
Xavier	8-11	.421	18-13	.581		
St. John's	8-11	.421	17-15	.531		
DePaul	6-14	.300	15-16	.484		
Butler	6-14	.300	14-19	.424		
Georgetown	0-19	.000	6-25	.194		
WOMEN'S (F	INAL)					
Team	CONF	CPCT	OVR	PCT		
UConn	16-1	.941	25-5	.833		
Villanova	15-4	.789	23-8	.742		
Creighton	15-5	.750	20-9	.690		
DePaul	14-6	.700	22-10	.688		
Marquette	13-7	.650	21-10	.677		
Seton Hall	12-8	.600	19-12	.613		
St. John's	7-12	.368	12-19	.387		
Providence	6-14	.300	11-19	.367		
Georgetown	4-15	.211	10-19	.345		
Xavier	4-16	.200	9-21	.300		
Butler	0-18	.000	1-27	.036		



Patriots offensive lineman Trent Brown has agreed to a two-year contract to remain in New England, STEW MILNE/AP

NFL NOTES

Patriots re-sign tackle Brown, work out Butler

Courant wire services

Offensive tackle Trent Brown has agreed to a two-year deal to return to the New England Patriots.

Brown's agent, Drew Rosenhaus, on Monday confirmed the new contract, which will help the Patriots maintain some stability on the right side of their front five after trading right guard Shaq Mason to

Brown, 28, returned to New England this past season after two years with the Raiders, but he missed eight straight games in 2021 after injuring a calf in the season opener. He returned for the final nine games (including playoffs) at right tackle and ranked as the Patriots' second-highest rated lineman. With Brown back, thirdyear lineman Mike Onwenu appears to be the leading candidate to fill Mason's spot beside him at right guard. Onwenu started the first four games at left guard in 2021.

Free agent cornerback Malcolm Butler, who retired before last season after signing with Arizona, also could be returning. He came in for a workout with the Patriots on Monday, the Boston Globe reported.

Butler, 32, hasn't played since 2020, when he started every game for the Titans, posting career highs with four interceptions and 100 tackles. He started his career with a four-year stint in New England, where in his last game he was mysteriously benched for Super Bowl LII against

the Eagles. Giants making most of Buffalo connec-

tion: The Giants keep signing players away from the Bills, the team where their new general manager and coach spent the past four seasons building a moribund roster into a contender. Running back Matt Breida and offensive lineman Jamil Douglas became the latest free agents to make that move, signing their contracts with the Giants on Monday. They follow offensive lineman Jon Feliciano, receiver Robert Foster, quarterback Davis Webb and running back Antonio Williams, all of whom arrive with an understanding of coach Brian Daboll's playbook.

"I think it's guys who know how to win, leadership, guys who know what it takes to get to the playoffs, and that's definitely what we expect here with the Giants, nothing short of that," Breida told Newsday of the Bills' culture. "Having those guys here is going to help with the rest of the team, and I'm excited to get to work."

Said Douglas: "I definitely think it's a culture-type thing."

Carter leaving Giants for Falcons: $\operatorname{Edge}\nolimits$ rusher Lorenzo Carter, a 2018 third-round pick who had five sacks in his last four games for the Giants in 2021, agreed to a one-year deal with the Falcons as a free agent, as first reported by NFL Network. The move returns the linebacker from the University of Georgia to his home state on a prove-it deal after his career with the Giants never developed as hoped. Carter posted four sacks and then 4.5 in his first two seasons with the Giants. He tore an Achilles early in the 2020 season and came back to start 14 games in 2021.